

Item 4.1 - Business bulletin

Petitions Committee

2pm, Thursday, 22 January 2015

Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

This is a public meeting and members of the public are welcome to attend

Contact

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Petitions Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
<p>Councillor Maggie Chapman</p> 	<p>Councillor Balfour Councillor Chapman Councillor Dixon Councillor Edie Councillor Gardner Councillor Keil Councillor Key Councillor Lunn Councillor Paterson Councillor Redpath</p>	<p>Stuart McLean Committee Clerk Tel: 529 4106</p> <p>Laura Millar Assistant Committee Clerk Tel: 529 4319</p>

Recent news	Background
<p>Review of political Management Arrangements</p> <p>At the Council meeting on 11 December 2014 it was agreed to make several changes to the petitions criteria/process. The Council agreed amongst other things :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) to relax the petitions criteria to allow petitions on matters currently within a committee work programme. 2) to extend the petitions criteria to allow 16 and 17 year olds to submit and sign petitions. 3) to reduce the number of respondents required before a petition would be considered to 200 (rather than 500) for a city-wide issue and 50 signatures for a local issue (rather than 250). 4) that Officers will no longer check names against the electoral register but will seek confirmation that those wishing to be involved in the process are resident in Edinburgh 5) in future, once a petition has been considered, the committee could request a report to the relevant executive committee on the issue(s) raised by the petition. 	<p>City of Edinburgh Council – 11 December 2014</p>

Ratho Surgery Capacity

[Petitions Committee 6 November 2014](#)

On 6 November 2014, the Petitions Committee considered the petition 'Ratho Surgery Capacity'. The Committee asked that they and the Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership be kept informed of the progress made in redeveloping the Surgery at Ratho

On 12 November 2014, the NHS Lothian Finance and Resources Committee considered and supported the Business Case for the new surgery. Since then, talks with the developer have progressed. NHS Lothian are hoping to submit a planning application early in 2015.

The Ratho Community Council hosted a well attended evening to discuss the new surgery and some of the current and recent perceived shortcomings in the service being offered.

The NHS representatives suggested they come back at a later date to discuss progress with both the building and the service

Petitions Live

[Webcast Library](#)

The most recent Petitions Committee on 6 November 2014 has been watched by 439 people and is still available to view in the webcast archive.

As of 14 January 2015, there have been 12,408 viewings of webcasts of the Petitions Committee. A breakdown of the number of viewings per meeting is detailed below.

Meeting Date	Number of viewings
3 December 2012	2367
22 January 2013	1513
18 April 2013	2817
3 June 2013	2044
5 September 2013	1502
23 January 2014	1153
5 September 2014	573
6 November 2014	439

Our webcast facility allows you to watch the committee as it happens. You can also catch up on what you have missed by visiting our webcast pages, where previous meetings of the Petitions Committee and the full Council can be viewed. Other Committees are now being webcast and are available to view.

There are options to pause, fast forward and rewind this recording and to view the reports and minutes at the same time. You can also comment on the meeting as it happens using our 'Cover it Live' comment option.

Petitions to the Council

[Current Petitions](#)

Since the Petitions Committee launched on 8 October 2012, the Council has received a total of 38 petitions. Of these, 20 were valid and the remaining 18 petitions were deemed invalid as they did not meet the Petitions Criteria.

Of the 20 valid petitions, the Petitions Committee have, so far, considered 12 petitions. In each case, the Committee has agreed that the issues raised merit further action and have taken action as appropriate.

Petitions on Tour

[Meeting Dates](#)

The Petitions Committee meets regularly in the City Chambers on the Royal Mile. In future, we would like to bring the petitions committee to your local neighbourhood to consider issues that affect you. If we receive a petition which applies to your area, the petitions committee may go 'on tour' to consider this petition within a building in your area.

Contact Us

[Stuart McLean](#)

Tel: 529 4106

If you have any comments or suggestions, or if you would like information on how to submit a petition please [contact us](#)

[Laura Millar](#)

Tel: 529 4319

Forthcoming activities:

The next meeting of the Petitions Committee will be at 2pm on 26 March 2015 in the Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers.