

Item 4.1 - Business Bulletin

Petitions Committee

2.00pm, Thursday, 26 March 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>Public Bike Hire Scheme for Edinburgh</p> <p>At the Transport and Environment Committee meeting on 17 March 2015 it was agreed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To note the work with JCDecaux to develop a proposal for a public bike hire scheme for Edinburgh. 2) To request a further report to be brought to the Committee as soon as possible, and no later than October 2015, detailing the JCDecaux proposal and recommending a decision. 3) To advise the Petitions Committee of the decision of the Transport and Environment Committee and note that an update will be provided in the Petitions Committee Business Bulletin. 4) To discharge the action to undertake and report on further investigative work, into a bike leasing scheme. 	<p>Transport and Environment Committee – Public Bike Hire Scheme - 17 March 2015</p>
<p>A71 Dalmahoy Junction</p> <p>At the Transport and Environment Committee meeting on 17 March 2015 it was agreed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To note the three options identified along with the relevant detail of the accompanying safety audit results. 2) To note that the installation of traffic signals is the only 	<p>Transport and Environment Committee – A71 Dalmahoy Junction – Options Report - 17 March 2015</p>

practical option to improve road safety for both vehicles and pedestrians.

- 3) To note that with the current shortfall in funding of approximately £76,000 this scheme cannot currently proceed to construction.
- 4) To agree to undertake a detailed design for the signalisation of the junction with a more detailed cost estimate, including land acquisition and any required planning consents and to receive a report on these issues, along with details of how to find the additional required funding, in the first quarter of next year.

Religious Observance in Schools

At the Education, Children and Families Committee meeting on 3 March 2015 it was agreed:

- 1) To note the content of the Director's Report.
- 2) To note the progress made to date.
- 3) To note the change of title from "Religious Observance" to "Time for Reflection".
- 4) To note the continuing Career Long Professional Learning opportunities and the range of support available for Headteachers in relation to "Time for Reflection".
- 5) That annually schools must inform their parent council about the composition of those delivering religious observance. Under the terms of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, parents / carers have the right to ask for their children to be withdrawn from religious observance. This information must be updated in the school handbook each year. This must be carried out by all schools for the start of this academic year.
- 6) That parents must be informed about the times and subject of planned activities which will be delivered through religious observance. This information must be shared through parent council meetings, news bulletins, school newsletters or the school website. An outline of religious observance events will be made available on request.
- 7) That when a pupil is withdrawn, the school must make suitable arrangements for the pupil to participate in a worthwhile activity, in consultation with parents. If parents have any concern about religious observance they should approach the head teacher to discuss their concerns.
- 8) That publications must not be sold to pupils by either individuals or groups. Head teachers must consider carefully all materials that are used with children. If they

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Report - 3 June 2013](#)

[Education, Children and
Families Committee -
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think any materials are of a sensitive nature they must discuss them with their parent council prior to issue and must seek advice from Children and Families staff.

- 9) That all groups must have a teacher present when conducting religious observance. If there is something done under the auspices of the school and a teacher will not be present (i.e. extra-curricular activities) explicit parental consent must be given.

Ratho Surgery capacity

The developer and NHS Lothian have agreed the design of the surgery. Legal negotiations are in progress, and the developer intends to submit the planning application once these are concluded. The developer attended the Ratho and District Community Council meeting in February to update the community on progress.

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Overview Report – 6
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Petitions Live

[Webcast archive](#)

The most recent Petitions Committee on 22 January 2015 has been watched by 424 people and is still available to view in the webcast archive.

As of 20 March 2015, there have been 14,470 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	2740
22 January 2013	1667
18 April 2013	3210
3 June 2013	2125
5 September 2013	1679
23 January 2014	1321
4 September 2014	808
6 November 2014	496
22 January 2015	424

Petitions to the Council

Since the Petitions Committee launched on 8 October 2012, the Council has received a total of 42 petitions. Of these, 22 were valid and the remaining 20 petitions were deemed invalid as they did not meet the Petitions Criteria.

Of the 22 valid petitions, the Petitions Committee have, so far, considered 15 petitions. In each case, the Committee has agreed that the issues raised merit further action and have taken action as appropriate.

Petitions on Tour

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

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

[Current Petitions](#)[Meeting Dates](#)

[Stuart McLean](#)
Tel: 529 4106

[Laura Millar](#)
Tel: 529 4319

Forthcoming activities:

The next meeting of the Petitions Committee will be at 2pm on 11 June 2015 in the Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers.