

# Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

17 February 2014



## Update in relation to Petitions

---

### Report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services

---

#### Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board with the quarterly update in relation to the current situation regarding various petitions received by the Authority.

#### Background

2. Following the introduction of The Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, the administration of the petitions process was passed to Democratic Services.
  - 2.1 Overview and Scrutiny Management Board have received update reports on petitions since September 2008.
  - 2.2 From the 15 December 2010, the Authority has provided a facility for members of the public to submit e-petitions on the Council's website.

#### Current Position

- 3 To-date 36 e-petitions have been submitted. Of these, 21 have been accepted and 13 rejected, 3 as they were duplicates of e-petitions already received, 10 as they did not qualify under the Council's Petition Scheme. 2 e-petitions did not go ahead at the request of the Petitioner, 1 of which did not "go live" on the Council's website. Of the 21 e-petitions accepted, 20 have now completed the petition process.
  - 3.1 Since the last update, 5 new paper petitions have been submitted and 10 petitions have completed the petition process. A list giving details and current status of all active petitions is attached as Appendix 2 to the report.

#### Recommendation

4. Members are requested to note the update report on the status of petitions and e-petitions received by the Authority.

---

**Contact:** Ros Layfield, Committee Services Manager  
**Tel:** 03000 269 708 **E-mail:** [ros.layfield@durham.gov.uk](mailto:ros.layfield@durham.gov.uk)

---

---

## **Appendix 1: Implications**

---

**Finance :** None

**Staffing:** None

**Risk:** None

**Equality and Diversity/ Public Sector Equality Duty:** None

**Accommodation:** None

**Crime and Disorder:** None

**Human Rights:** None

**Consultation:** Petitions which refer to a consultation exercise are reported to committee for information and forwarded to the relevant officer for consideration

**Procurement:** None

**Disability Issues:** None

**Legal Implications:** None