

# **Overview and Scrutiny Management Board**

**13 February 2015**

## **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 52 e-petitions have been submitted. Of these, 31 have been accepted and 19 rejected, 3 as they were duplicates of e-petitions already received, 14 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 31 e-petitions accepted, 25 have now completed the petition process.
  - 3.1 Since the last update, 2 new paper petitions have been submitted and 9 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