

# Subject: Petitions

**Report to: London Assembly (Plenary)**

**Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat**

**Date: 2 March 2016**

**This report will be considered in public**

## 1. Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out details of petitions to be presented at this meeting by Assembly Members.

## 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 **That the Assembly receives and notes the petitions listed at section 4 of this report and decides whether to refer the petitions, and if so where to, and seeks a response to the points raised.**

## 3. Background

- 3.1 Standing Orders 3.20 to 3.21 make provision for the presentation of petitions by an Assembly Member at an ordinary meeting of the Assembly.

A petition to be presented must:

- (a) Be addressed to the Mayor, the Assembly, a Functional Body (as the case may be);
- (b) Clearly indicate the name, address and contact telephone number of the person organising the petition, or where the petition was organised on the internet, its data controller;
- (c) Be presented in the form of printed sheets, each of which includes the “prayer” of the petition (the “prayer” is the formal request or other subject matter of the petition) or, if the petition was organised on the internet, clearly demonstrate that internet users who subscribed to the petition knew what the prayer was;
- (d) Include each petitioner’s name (which may be printed or be in the form of a signature, provided that the signature is legible) and address (sufficient that the person and their address can be identified) or, where the petition was organised on the internet, their names and email addresses;
- (e) Indicate the total number of manual or electronic signatories to the petition.

(f) Young people aged 17 or under signing a petition may give their address as that of the school, or other recognised youth group or similar organisation that they attend (with details of their class name where appropriate), provided that the lead petitioner is a teacher at or leader of that school or youth group or similar organisation.

(g) Indicate the total number of manual or electronic signatories to the petition; and

(h) Refer to matters within the responsibilities of the Mayor, the London Assembly or the functional bodies, or to matters of importance to Londoners, including those who visit, live or work in Greater London.

- 3.2 Notice of the intention to present a petition at an Assembly meeting and a copy of the petition must be given to the Executive Director of the Secretariat by no later than 12 noon six clear working days before that meeting.
- 3.3 Under Standing Orders the Member presenting the petition will read out the prayer of the petition (but not the signatories). The Assembly will not debate the petition. If the Assembly agrees without debate, the petition will be forwarded to the Mayor, Functional Body, relevant committee or other organisation with a request for a response to the points made by the petitioner. The response received will be reported to the Assembly for information and forwarded to the petition's organiser. The prayer of the petition and the response received will be published in the appropriate Assembly Minutes.

#### **4. Petitions to be presented**

- 4.1 Notice of the following petitions has been received:
- 4.2 Three related petitions , received by **Jennette Arnold OBE AM**, are to be presented to the London Assembly, in accordance with Standing Orders 3.20 to 3.21, saying:

**“We, the undersigned, ask Transport for London to re-consider their proposal to:**

- 1. Move six bus routes from Vorley Road Stand to new stands on Archway Road.**
- 2. Allow buses to turn across the A1.**
- 3. Prevent traffic in St John's Way from turning into Archway Road.”**

The petition has 144 signatories.

The contact person for this petition is Liz Lawson, 26 Waterlow Road, N19 5NH.

**“As part of the Archway Gyration proposal, Transport for London (TfL) plans to close a right turn from St John's Way which will re-route two bus services and hospital-/north-bound A1 traffic into local roads serving the Archway Children's Centre, Girdlestone Estate and Whitehall Park Conservation Area. The above have several residential areas, playgrounds and a nursery/children's centre well-loved and well-used by many pregnant women and under-5s.**

**We, the undersigned, petition the Mayor of London, TfL and Islington Council to commence a pre-construction air quality survey in summer 2015, so that a better-informed decision can be made - not just based on journey minutes alone, but also the number of young lives saved from worsening pollution - year after year.**

**In particular, we call upon the Mayor and Islington Council to:**

- 1) Allow volunteers to append diffusion tubes to lamp-posts at Vorley Road, Macdonald Road, St John's Way, Highgate Hill (lower part) and within Whitehall Park Conservation Area. This will be similar to what was achieved at the upper part of Highgate Hill (website: [www.camden.greenparty.org.uk/campaigns/air-pollution.html](http://www.camden.greenparty.org.uk/campaigns/air-pollution.html));**
- 2) Convince TfL that the air quality survey results are a material concern in pre-construction reviews of the Archway Gyratory details (e.g. amending the current proposal so that no new bus routes are diverted into Vorley Road);**
- 3) Urge TfL to meet the Archway Children's Centre Parents/Carers Group and other community groups from July 2015 and progressively beyond, to clarify and discuss improvements to the current gyratory proposal; and**
- 4) Retain a right-turning route from St John's Way in the first year of the new road layout as part of the planned post-construction review, rather than ban it from the outset (based on traffic simulations alone). This will be a more accurate assessment and reduce abortive work, disruptions and costs in re-opening the right turn in future, when traffic and pollution spillover proves to be unsafe and unacceptable."**

The petition has 185 signatories.

The contact person for this petition is Kiat Phua, 6 Colewick Close, N6 5NU.

[Note: This petition is associated with an e-petition hosted by Change.org which sets out additional signatures.]

**"We call on TFL to:**

- Immediately halt its gyratory enlargement plans in order to give due consideration to alternative road layouts that keep traffic on major roads, not residential streets, including incorporating a right turn at St Johns Way.**
- Commit to reducing pollution on Vorley Road and other residential roads affected by the gyratory by revising its redevelopment plan and demonstrate to the local community how it will do this before work on the gyratory starts."**

The petition has 334 signatories.

The contact person for this petition is Claudine Fry, 19 Crescent Road, N8 8AL.

[Note: This petition is associated with an e-petition hosted by Change.org which sets out additional signatures.]

## 5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 By virtue of sections 59, 34 and 53 of the GLA Act 1999 (as amended), the Assembly has the power to do what is recommended in this report.
- 5.2 Under Standing Order 3.20 the petitions presented to the Assembly, together with the pages containing the names and addresses of the signatories to the petition, are documents to which the access to information rules from sections 100A - H and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 apply.
- 5.3 Any applications from Members to see the names and addresses of the signatories to the petition will be considered by the Executive Director of the Secretariat on a case by case basis and in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Data Protection Act 1988.

## 6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

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**List of appendices to this report:** None.

<b>Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985</b>
List of Background Papers: None.
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