



**Chairman's Room
Kent County Council
County Hall Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ**

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Chairman: BILL HAYTON

12 October 2010

Dear Members

County Council Meeting – Thursday 14 October 2010

Following the County Council's adoption of the Petition Scheme at its last meeting in July, Members will be aware that we have received our first four petitions that contain the appropriate number of signatures to trigger a debate at County Council. Three petitions relate to the proposed closure of older people's homes and one petition relates to right-turns off the A256 from Sandwich to Dover. As all four petitions relate to matters that are the responsibility of the Executive, the role of the County Council is limited to making recommendations to the decision-makers with regard to these issues.

The Petition Scheme provides that, for each petition received that hits the trigger level for a County Council debate, it can be debated for up to 45 minutes. As we have three petitions on the same overarching policy proposal, albeit in relation to different Older Person's establishments, I intend to combine the debate on these petitions, whilst dealing with the A256 petition as a separate debate. The process for dealing with the Petitions will be as follows:

Proposed Closure of Manorbrooke, Cornfields and Sampson Court care homes for older people:

1. The Lead Petitioner for the Manorbrooke Petition (Ms Yvette Knight) will address the meeting and speak for up to five minutes. A written statement from Ms Knight is also appended to this letter.
2. The local Member for the Manorbrooke Petition (Mrs Penny Cole) will be invited to address the meeting for up to five minutes.
3. The Lead Petitioner for the Cornfields Petition (Councillor Wendy Bowman – Whitfield Parish Council) will address the meeting and speak for up to five minutes. A written statement from Councillor Wendy Bowman is also appended to this letter.

4. The local Member for the Cornfields Petition (Mr Bryan Cope) will be invited to address the meeting for up to five minutes.
5. The Lead Petitioners for the Sampson Court Petition (Mr and Mrs Hubble) will address the meeting and speak for up to five minutes. A written statement from Mr and Mrs Hubble is also appended to this letter
6. The local Member for the Sampson Court Petition (Mrs Julie Rook) will be invited to address the meeting for up to five minutes
7. Members will be invited to debate all three petitions. Members are able to speak for up to five minutes each.
8. The Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services, Mr Graham Gibbens will be invited to respond to the debate for up to five minutes and advise the County Council how he intends to take the petitioners' concerns forward.
9. The County Council may decide to make recommendations to the Cabinet Member to inform his decision

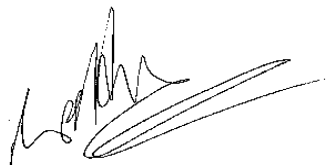
Request for the re-opening of right turns off the A256 from Sandwich to Dover:

1. The Lead Petitioners for the A256 Petition (Councillor M Ovenden – Eythorne Parish Council and Lady Julia Pender – a Tilmanstone parishioner) will address the meeting and speak for up to five minutes. A written statement from the Lead Petitioners is also appended to this letter
2. The local Member for the A256 Petition (Mr Steve Manion) will be invited to address the meeting for up to five minutes
3. Members will be invited to debate the petition. Members are able to speak for up to five minutes each
4. The Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste, Mr Nick Chard will be invited to respond to the debate for up to five minutes and advise the County Council how he intends to take the petitioners' concerns forward
5. The County Council may decide to make recommendations to the Cabinet Member to inform his decision.

Finally, as we are expecting a number of members of the public to attend the meeting for these items, I have arranged for a live webcast feed of the meeting to an adjoining room, should it not be possible to accommodate all of the members of the public in the Council Chamber.

If you have any queries about the process, please do not hesitate to contact Peter Sass (01622 694002)

Yours sincerely



Mr Bill Hayton
Chairman of Kent County Council