

3. How will the County Council respond to petitions?

- (a) The County Council will tell you what it intends to do with the petition within 20 working days of receipt of the paper petition or the close of an e-petition.
- (b) Each Petition that does not have the required number of signatures to trigger a debate will receive a written response from the appropriate Cabinet Member(s), which will set out their views on the petition and what action, if any, will be taken.
- (c) If your petition is about something over which the County Council has no direct control (for example the local railway or hospital) we will consider making representations on behalf of the community to the relevant body. The County Council works with a large number of local partners and where possible will work with these partners to respond to your petition. If we are not able to do this for any reason (for example if what the petition calls for conflicts with County Council policy), then we will set out the reasons for this to you. You can find more information on the [services](#) for which the County Council is responsible here.
- (d) If your petition is about something that a different council is responsible for, or for which we have joint responsibility, we will give consideration to what the best method is for responding to it. This might consist of simply forwarding the petition to the other council for them to respond to or comment on, but could involve other steps. In any event we will always notify you of the action we have taken.