

**Meeting:** COUNCIL

**Date of Meeting:** 13<sup>TH</sup> May 2010

**Title of Report:** Petitions Scheme

**Report of:** Assistant Chief Executive

**Contact Officer:** Andrea Grant  
(Telephone No.) 0151 934 2030

This report contains	Yes	No
<b>CONFIDENTIAL</b> Information/		√
<b>EXEMPT</b> information by virtue of paragraph(s).....of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 (If information <u>is</u> marked exempt, the Public Interest Test must be applied and favour the exclusion of the information from the press and public).		√
Is the decision on this report <b>DELEGATED?</b>		

**Purpose of Report**

To approve a Petitions Scheme as required by the Chapter 2 of Part 1 of The Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act.

**Recommendation(s)**

That

- (1) the petitions scheme attached at Appendix 1 be approved for implementation; and
- (2) consequential amendments be made to the Constitution to ensure consistency with the petitions scheme.

## **Corporate Objective Monitoring**

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1.	Creating a Learning Community		√	
2.	Creating Safe Communities		√	
3.	Jobs and Prosperity		√	
4.	Improving Health and Well-Being		√	
5.	Environmental Sustainability		√	
6.	Creating Inclusive Communities	√		
7.	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	√		
8.	Children and Young People		√	

## **Financial Implications**

It is expected that the national cost to the public sector of responding to local petitions will be approximately £4.7 million per year, decreasing over time. These costs arise from increased work for council officers, time at council meetings and overview and scrutiny committees, and set up costs for e-petitions. Local authorities will each receive a grant for 2010/11. This amount will vary by local authority dependent on the local population. It is expected that funding for future years will be incorporated into the revenue support grant.

<b><u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u></b>	<b>2009/ 2010 £</b>	<b>2010/ 2011 £</b>	<b>2011/ 2012 £</b>	<b>2012/ 2013 £</b>
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<b><u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u></b>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

## **Departments consulted in the preparation of this Report**

None

## **List of background papers relied upon in the preparation of this Report**

Chapter 2 of Part 1 of The Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009

The Local Authorities (Petitions) (England) Order 2010

The Local Authorities (Petitions) (England) Order 2010 (Explanatory Memorandum)

The Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (Commencement No. 3) Order 2010

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 At its meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2010, Cabinet considered a report on the statutory guidance on the duty to respond to petitions and resolved that the Chief Executive, in consultation with the political group leaders, be authorised to submit a petitions scheme to the Council meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2010 for implementation by the statutory deadline of 15<sup>th</sup> June 2010.
- 1.2 The proposed scheme is attached as an Appendix to this report.

### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

That

- (1) the petitions scheme attached at Appendix 1 be approved for implementation; and
- (2) consequential amendments be made to the Constitution to ensure consistency with the petitions scheme.