

REPORT of DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

to COUNCIL 13 SEPTEMBER 2018

PETITIONS SCHEME UPDATE

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To present an updated Petitions Scheme for Members' review and approval.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the updated Petitions Scheme (**APPENDIX 1**) be approved and adopted.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 The current Petitions Scheme had not been reviewed for a number of years and required some updating. A review has now been undertaken and the Scheme updated to provide additional information and guidance. The revised Scheme is attached at **APPENDIX 1** to this report.
- 3.2 The following are the key changes in the revised scheme:
 - Clarification regarding the requirement for persons signing the petition to live, work or study in the Maldon District.
 - A change to the threshold for a petition being presented to the Council, this has been reduced from 3,200 to 2,000 in line with other Councils.
 - Inclusion of further information regarding exceptions and specific circumstances which fall outside of the Scheme.
 - How electronic petitions are received and will be processed.
 - Addition of an Appendix which provides a suggested format for paper petitions.

4. IMPACT ON CORPORATE GOALS

4.1 This links with the Council's corporate goal to be an organisation that delivers good quality, cost effective and valued services in a transparent way.

5. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) <u>Impact on Customers</u> The updated Scheme provides further information for customers on submitting a Petition.
- (ii) <u>Impact on Equalities</u> None.
- (iii) <u>Impact on Risk</u> None.
- (iv) <u>Impact on Resources (financial)</u> None.
- (v) <u>Impact on Resources (human)</u> None.
- (vi) **Impact on the Environment** None.

Background Papers: None.

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