

## PETITION FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC - PETITION FOR SDC TO EXPLAIN ITS FAILURE TO SUPPLY INFORMATION

Council - 20 November 2018

Report of	Chief Officer Corporate Services
Status	For Decision
Key Decision	No

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**Recommendation to Council:** That, in accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme, the Council consider the petition submitted by Frances White, on 1 November 2018 and determine any action that it wishes to take in response.

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### Introduction and Background

- 1 Frances White, the lead petitioner, set up an petition in line with the Council's petition policy which ran from 25/09/2018 to 01/11/2018 and has been submitted with 1068 signatures in the following terms:

'We the undersigned petition the council to Explain why the community was not adequately informed about the consultation for the Draft Local Plan.

SDC must explain

- why the community was not informed about the consultation for the Draft Local Plan by letters marked 'Important' posted to 'The Householder', as with communications re Planning Permission
- why such a short time period, mostly during the holiday period, was given for the consultation
- why community representatives, including Parish Councils, were not made aware of it in good time, especially given the summer break.'

### The Council's Petition Scheme

- 2 The Council's Petitions Scheme provides for petitions containing more than 1,000 signatures to be debated at full Council and also that petitions which relate to an issue which affects a particular area of the District and have a significant level of support from people who live, work or study in that area are also likely to be debated at a full Council meeting.
- 3 The Council can take whatever action it deems appropriate to respond to the petition which could include referring the petition to Cabinet or any council

committee, to commission further investigation or to take no action at all for reasons put forward in the debate.

## **Key Implications**

### Financial

None directly arising from this report.

### Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

None directly arising from this report.

### Equality Assessment

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.]

## **Conclusion**

The Council is asked to consider the petition and to determine what action it wishes to take in response.

## **Appendices**

None

## **Background Papers**

[Sevenoaks District Council Constitution: Appendix Y - Petition Scheme](#)

[Petition](#)

**Jim Carrington-West**

**Chief Officer Corporate Services**