

COUNCIL – 26 JULY 2011

PETITION FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – MINIBUS SERVICE AND FUNDING

Report of the: Director of Finance and Corporate Resources

Status: For Decision

This report supports the Key Aim of the effective management of Council resources.

Portfolio Holder Cllr. P. Fleming

Head of Service Mrs Christine Nuttall - Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Recommendation: That, in accordance with the Council's Petitions Scheme, the Council considers the petition submitted by Councillor Walshe on the Minibus Service and Funding and determines any action that it wishes to take in response.

Introduction

1. Councillor Walshe has submitted a petition containing 399 signatures in the following terms:

“We, the undersigned, call on Sevenoaks District Council not to cease expenditure on their minibus service but to provide the vehicles to other suitable organisations together with adequate finance to continue the service.”

The Council's Petitions 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”. Although this petition does not reach the 1,000 signature threshold it is a matter for Members to determine how they wish to deal with the petition.

3. The Council can take whatever action it deems appropriate which could include referring the petition to Cabinet or any council committee or taking no action at all.

Key Implications

Financial

4. The financial implications would depend upon the action to be taken.

Community Impact and Outcomes

5. This would depend upon the action to be taken.

Legal, Human Rights etc.

6. None

Value For Money and Asset Management

7. None

Conclusions

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

Sources of Information: Petition submitted by Councillor Walshe on 31 March 2011

Sevenoaks District Council Petitions Scheme

Contact Officer(s): Alan Twyman – Democratic Services Manager

Ext. 7247

Dr Pav Ramewal

**Deputy Chief Executive and
Director of Corporate
Resources**