

<b>CABINET</b>	AGENDA ITEM No. 9
<b>21 SEPTEMBER 2020</b>	<b>PUBLIC REPORT</b>

Report of:	Fiona McMillan, Director of Law and Governance	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Farooq, Cabinet Member for Digital Services and Transformation	
Contact Officer(s):	Pippa Turvey, Democratic and Constitutional Services Manager	Tel. 452460

## OUTCOME OF PETITIONS

<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	
<b>FROM:</b> <i>Directors</i>	<b>Deadline date:</b> <i>N/A</i>
It is recommended that Cabinet notes the actions taken in respect of petitions.	

### 1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report is submitted following the submission of E-Petitions, the presentation of petitions to Council officers, and the presentation of petitions at Council meetings.

### 2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to update Cabinet on the progress being made in response to petitions submitted to the Council at the end of the 2019/2020 municipal year. An update on petitions received at the start of the 2020/2021 municipal year will be provided to Cabinet at its next meeting.
- 2.2 This report is for Cabinet to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 3.2.3, '*To take a leading role in promoting the economic, environmental and social well-being of the area*'.

### 3. TIMESCALES

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	<b>NO</b>	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	<b>N/A</b>
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### 4. BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES

#### **Petitions Received by the Council**

##### Coneygree Road – Safe Crossing

The petition was submitted by Councillor Lillis at Full Council on 5 February 2020. The petition contained 156 valid signatures and called on the Council "to install a new pedestrian crossing on Coneygree Road."

The Principal Sustainable Transport Planning Officer responded:

“Thank you for submitting the response requesting a new crossing on Coneygree Road. We receive a number of requests for new crossings and we assess each one to see if a crossing can be justified. The assessment process, known as a PV2 assessment, counts the number of vehicles and the number of people crossing the road to give a weighted score. Sites that score highly enough will then be progressed through to design options for a new crossing. We have a number of sites that we need to assess but we will add this to our list and undertake the survey in the near future.”

### Stop the Cuts to the Baby Café

The petition was submitted by Oscar Butler online on 27 April 2020. The petition contained 45 valid signatures and called on the Council “to Reverse the decision to pull funding to pay for qualified breastfeeding counsellors from the contract the PCC has with National Childbirth Trust”.

The Commissioning Team Manager for the Healthy Child Programme responded:

“Peterborough City Council are committed to supporting mothers throughout their breastfeeding journey and commission a range of support options suited to meet the needs of local families.

A decision was taken to not renew the Baby Café licenses from 2020/21, in favour of a new delivery model which will be facilitated by trained Peer Supporter group leaders. All peer supporters are required to undergo accredited training through the Open College Network and attend monthly update and supervision sessions to ensure they have the skills to support mothers, emotionally and socially and have the knowledge to provide practical advice and information in line with best practice to support mothers with common breastfeeding issues. There is good evidence from the National Institute of Health and Care Excellence (NICE) and the World Health Organisation (WHO) that breastfeeding peer-support programs are effective.<sup>1</sup> The service works closely with Midwifery and Health Visiting services to ensure that women experiencing more complex and persistent issues receive timely specialist advice and support.

These changes also come in light of a changing landscape. When this service first started there was not the Specialist community support provided by Midwifery and Health Visiting services that there now is and it is important that this service is flexible in its approach to ensure we prioritise resources to ensure we reach families who need help and offer support through a range of access mechanisms.

Group support is just one part of a wider network of breastfeeding support offered through the service, which includes support on the post-natal ward, telephone and text support and via social media platforms. Additionally the Covid-19 restrictions have also allowed exploration of group support through video conferencing, which is proving a popular way of extending support to mothers, especially those who experience transport limitations.

We would like to thank the Breastfeeding Counsellors who have been linked to the Serpentine Green Baby Café for the valued support they have provided over the past 6 years.”

## **5. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

- 5.1 As the petitions presented in this report have been dealt with by Cabinet Members or officers, it is appropriate that the action taken is reported to Cabinet.

## **6. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 6.1 There have been no alternative options considered.

## **7. IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 There are no legal, financial, or equalities implications arising from the issues considered.

**8. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

8.1 Petitions presented to the Council and responses from officers.

**9. APPENDICES**

9.1 None.

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