

	<p>Environment Committee</p> <p>7 November 2017</p>
<p>Title</p>	<p>Petition – Disruptions Caused by the New Religious Centre at the Hippodrome Golders Green</p>
<p>Report of</p>	<p>Head of Governance</p>
<p>Wards</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>Status</p>	<p>Public</p>
<p>Enclosures</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Officer Contact Details</p>	<p>Paul Frost, Governance Team Leader, paul.frost@barnet.gov.uk, 020 8359 2205</p>

<p>Summary</p>
<p>The Council received an online petition via it’s e-petition facility. The Constitution provides that petitions which have received between 2,000 – 6,999 signatures are reported to the relevant committee. As issues raised the petition relate to parking, noise and environmental issues, the Environment Committee is the relevant committee.</p>

<p>Recommendations</p>
<p>That the Environment Committee consider the issues raised in the petition and resolve to take one of the actions detailed in section 1.4 of the report.</p>

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 The Public Participation and Engagement Rules, Section 7 (Petitions) details the procedures to be followed when a petition is received. Petitions which have received between 2,000 – 6,999 signatures are reported to the relevant committee which in this case the Environment Committee.
- 1.2 Whilst the petition is linked to a planning application (reference number 17/5846/S73), the issues raised are environmental in nature and relate to the current and proposed use of the venue in question. It is therefore appropriate to report these to the relevant committee rather than for the petition to be treated as a letter of representation as part of the planning process.
- 1.3 Details of the petition are set out below:

Petition Details	Signatories
<p>We the undersigned petition the council to:</p> <p>We want the relevant authorities at Barnet Council to investigate whether the establishment and operation of this Centre complies with planning regulations. We would like Barnet Council to consider extending parking restrictions in the surrounding residential streets. In the short term, Barnet Council should approach the management of the Centre and oblige them to make the necessary arrangements and changes in order to stop the deleterious impact on the lives of the local residents and their visitors.</p> <p>Please help us restore the charm, harmony and safety of our family neighbourhood by signing this petition. The recent establishment of a religious centre at the Hippodrome, North End Road, Golders Green has caused numerous and critical problems and inconvenience for our fellow residents and their visitors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- an exponential increase in the amount of traffic well beyond the capacity of our streets;- a rise in air pollution;- significant levels of increase in noise pollution: shouting, car stereo music, and car horns used by frustrated and angry drivers at all hours of day and night;- major congestion as a result of severe restriction to bilateral movement of vehicles along streets due to maximum number of cars being parked on both sides of roads;- hindrance to the normal function of public transport;	5,675

- considerably reduced safety, and increased risk to the lives and health of local residents due to the inability of emergency services to reach the homes of residents;

- major inconvenience for the elderly and visitors to our homes.

The situation has become utterly unbearable for the residents who can no longer reach or depart their homes and vicinity in a reasonable manner.

Please sign the petition asking Barnet Council and all relevant authorities to act on this matter as soon as possible so as to oblige the management of the new religious centre to remedy the situation as soon as possible. The Council should also look into more stringent parking and planning restrictions to prevent any further deterioration of the quality of our lives and our safety.

- 1.4 The Public Participation and Engagement Rules detail the procedure to be followed when a committee receives a petition which is as follows:

The Lead Petitioner will be given five minutes to present the petition to the committee. Following the presentation, the Chairman and Committee Members have an opportunity to ask the Lead Petitioner questions. After the debate, the Committee will decide to:

- Take no action
- Refer the matter to a chief officer to provide a written respond to Lead Petitioner within 20 working days; or
- Instruct an officer to prepare a report for a future meeting of the Committee on the issue(s) raised with a recommended course of action

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 As set out above.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1 N/A.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 Post-decision implementation will depend on the action the Committee decides to take in relation to the petition.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

- 5.1 **Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT,**

Property, Sustainability)

5.2 None in the context of this report.

5.3 Legal and Constitutional References

5.3.1 Council Constitution, Public Participation and Engagement Rules (Section 7) detail procedures relating to petitions.

5.3.2 Council Constitution, Responsibility for Functions, Annex A (Membership and Terms of Reference of Committees, Sub-Committees and Partnership Boards) – the terms of reference of the Environment Committee includes: parking, provision and enforcement; road safety; and traffic management.

5.4 Risk Management

5.5 None in the context of this report.

5.6 Equalities and Diversity

5.5.1 None in the context of this report.

5.6 Consultation and Engagement

5.6.1 None in the context of this report.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 Golders Green Hippodrome E-Petition:
<http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/mgEPetitionDisplay.aspx?ID=500000039&RPID=582332189&HPID=582332189>

6.2 Public Participation and Engagement Rules:
<http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s39117/18PublicParticipationandEngagementRules.doc.pdf>