

ENTERPRISE EMPLOYMENT & MAJOR PROJECTS CABINET MEMBER MEETING

Agenda Item 5

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Petitions		
Date of Meeting:	10 June 2009		
Report of:	Director of Strategy & Governance		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Caroline De Marco	Tel: 29-1063
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Key Decision:	No		
Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 To receive the following petitions presented at Council on 30 April 2009 and any petitions presented directly to the Enterprise, Employment & Major Project Cabinet Member Meeting.
- (i) To receive the following petition presented at Council on 30 April 2009 by Councillor Oxley and signed by 420 people:

“We, the undersigned, believe that the arrival of a major food retailer in Portland Road, would be devastating to local trade, would ultimately reduce competition and choice for local residents as businesses would be forced to close and would do nothing to help local traders manage the effects of the worsening recession.

We also believe that another store selling alcohol is not necessary given the large number of outlets already selling such items in the area.

We call on Brighton and Hove City Council to defend small and medium sized businesses in the city in view of the economic downturn and for the future diversity of the city’s economic base.”

- (ii) To receive the following petition presented at Council on 30 April 2009 by Councillor Kitcat and signed by 54 people:

“We the undersigned traders, hoteliers and Ward Councillors are writing to you with regards the Preston Street area of Regency Ward.

The past few years has seen a noticeable decline in the fortunes of Preston Street with increasing numbers of businesses closing and properties remaining vacant. Preston Street is a key part of the tourist experience, providing a diverse choice of food and drink to visitors and residents. With the i360 tower still planned to go ahead and with thought to keeping Brighton & Hove's competitive edge, we call on the administration to take bold steps.

We ask that the foot and vehicle traffic implications of the i360 are fully considered and that the funds are found to support Preston Street being turned into a mixed-used street as has been done so successfully in New Road. We believe this change will support the growth of a more continental café culture with more outdoor dining and an improved ambience to the whole street.

We urge you to consider this matter and include residence and traders in reviving our key restaurant street.”

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the petitions presented at the Council meeting as detailed above be noted and any subsequent action resulting from the nature of each petition be determined.