

HOUSING CABINET MEMBER MEETING

Agenda Item 91

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Petitions
Date of Meeting:	18 April 2012
Report of:	Strategic Director, Resources
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 any petitions presented at Council, any petitions submitted directly to Democratic Services or any e-Petition submitted via the council's website.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

2.2 That the Cabinet Member responds to the petitions either by noting it or writing to the petition organiser setting out the Council's views, or where it is considered more appropriate, calls for an officer report on the matter which may give consideration to a range of options, including the following:

- taking the action requested in the petition
- considering the petition at a council meeting
- holding an inquiry into the matter
- undertaking research into the matter
- holding a public meeting
- holding a consultation
- holding a meeting with petitioners
- referring the petition for consideration by the council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- calling a referendum

3. PETITIONS

3. (i) Better Homes Scheme – Unfair Assessments

To receive the following e-Petition from Nicholas Wood and signed by 33 people:

"We the undersigned petition the council to Urge Mears to re-think their policy regarding the Better Homes scheme and the rewarding of new bathrooms or kitchens."

Myself and many council tenants are unhappy with the system for rewarding new kitchens or bathrooms in the 'Better Homes' scheme. We feel that instead of 'rewarding' council tenants who do not take care of

their flats for whatever reason with a new kitchen or bathroom is wrong and that tenants who do look after their flats and take pride in their homes should be the ones being 'rewarded'. I am aware of tenants who have deliberately damaged their kitchens so as to receive new ones. Also the judgements from Mears employees who assessed the kitchens and bathrooms seem to start from an uneven playing field with some people with excellent kitchens being told they could have new ones and yet other people who have ill-fitted and damaged kitchens are being turned down. We the tenants want fairness with the assessments and fairness in receiving home improvements.