

Birmingham City Council

Council Business Management Committee

18 January 2021



Subject: Petition Demolition of Perry Barr Flyover
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Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

If relevant, state which appendix is exempt, and provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential:

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 To advise the Committee of a Petition entitled 'We oppose demolition of Perry Barr flyover' that has reached the threshold of 5,000 signatures that allows it to be submitted to this Committee for consideration.
- 1.2 To seek the view of the Committee as to whether it determines that the petition is relevant to either City Council or an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and should be debated.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the report be noted;
- 2.2 That, the Committee determines whether the petition should be debated or not and if so, whether that should be at City Council or by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

3 Background

- 3.1 At the Meeting of City Council on 3 November 2020 Councillor Jon Hunt submitted a petition (a list of names from an external e-petition site) relating to the demolition

of Perry Barr flyover. Following verification, the petition was found to contain 6,051 valid signatures from Birmingham residents; as a large number of the signatures on the e-petition were from outside Birmingham, these were not valid.

4 Petition Guidance

The relevant sections of the petition Guidance sets out the following:-

“If your petition achieves the threshold of 20,000 signatures (subject to verification) this will automatically trigger a debate of the petition at City Council. The lead petitioner will be notified of the date of the meeting.

The lead petitioner will also be offered the option of reading their petition at the beginning of the debate or they may choose to request a local Councillor to present it on their behalf.”

“If your petition achieves the threshold of 10,000 signatures (subject to verification) it will be referred to the appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee for a Senior Officer to attend and answer questions about the delivering of public services”.

“In addition, in event that the a petition with the number of signatures over 5,000 but below the above threshold trigger, is submitted, it will be considered by the Council Business Management Committee to determine whether an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or City Council should debate the petition, if relevant”

5 Matters for Consideration

- 5.1 The petition from Councillor Hunt had a number of signatures from people in other parts of the country and a number from around the world which could not be counted as valid. There are 8,754 signatures on the petition. However, the petition has 6,051 valid signatures which is over the threshold for consideration at this Committee to determine whether it should be debated at an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or City Council or not.
- 5.2 Committee will be aware that, in July 2019, Councillor Hunt submitted a paper petition entitled ‘Oppose the Flyover Demolition’ which included a list of names from an external e-petition site. The wording of the petition is at Appendix 1. As the petition had 6,500 valid signatures it was considered by this Committee on 27 August 2019 where it was agreed that as the petition should be debated at a meeting of City Council. The debate took place at the meeting on 5 November 2019 where the petition was discharged. It has now been established that the e petition part of the petition is repeated in the petition submitted on 3 of November 2020.
- 5.3 The number of valid signatures on the e-petition part of the July 2019 petition had 1,793 valid signatures so the number of new valid signatures on the petition presented in November 2020 is 4,258.

6 Appendices

Appendix 1 - Wording of petition presented in July 2019.