

Item No. 6.	Classification: Open	Date: 19 July 2011	Meeting Name: Cabinet
Report title:		Petition – Save Our Lollipop People	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		East Dulwich/Village	
From:		Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the cabinet consider a petition from the local community regarding the proposal to withdraw school crossing patrols on two separate junctions on East Dulwich Grove.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. A petition containing 500 signatures or more may be presented to the leader of the council at cabinet. A petition can be submitted by a person of any age who lives, works or studies in Southwark. Petitions must relate to matters which the council has powers or duties or which affects Southwark.
3. At the meeting, the spokesperson for the petition will be invited to speak for up to five minutes on the subject matter. The cabinet will debate the petition for a period of up to 15 minutes and may decide how to respond to the petition at the meeting.
4. Any relevant resource or community impact issues will be contained in the comments of the strategic director.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

5. A petition containing 3563 signatures has been received from the local community. The petition states:

"The petition is signed in protest at the proposed removal of the 3 lollipop people who work on the two schools crossings on East Dulwich Grove. One of these persons works on the crossing patrol at the junction of Village Way, Red Post Hill, East Dulwich Grove and Dulwich Village and the two lollipop people on the crossing at the Townley Road/East Dulwich Grove Junction."
6. The petitioners state that this petition contains signatures from a large cross section of the community, including a significant number from young people who are affected by the proposals.
7. The cabinet should decide how to respond to the petition at this meeting. A decision could be made to:
 - Take the action the petition requests
 - Not to take the action requested for reasons put forward in the debate, or
 - To commission further investigation into the matter.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Comments of the Strategic Director of Environment

8. The council secures through its parking enforcement contract with APCOA 52 school crossing patrol officers covering 46 locations. The costs of the school crossing patrol service were £274,578 in 2010/11. As part of the budget making for 2011/12 a saving of £50,000 has been agreed for this service.
9. Potential savings were identified at the eight locations where patrols operate in addition to signal controlled crossings and each of these locations was surveyed by the council road safety team during April 2011. As a result seven locations were identified where it was felt that the removal of the patrol would not lead to a significant reduction in road safety and in June these schools were notified that as of the autumn term 2011 the patrols would cease to operate.
10. The council has received a large number of concerns from the community about these changes to the school crossing patrol service. Having listened to those concerns and as a result of them, the council has secured funding from reserves to pay for the school crossing patrol service unchanged for another 12 months to allow time for schools and residents to develop a community response. As such, funding will not be in place beyond the end of the next school year. The schools have been informed of this.
11. Officers will be contacting the schools during the Autumn term 2011/12 to discuss how the council may assist in them in developing a longer-term solution.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Petition from the local community – “Save our lollipop people”	160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH	Everton Roberts 020 7525 7221 / Paula Thornton 020 7525 4395

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ian Millichap, Constitutional Manager	
Report Author	Paula Thornton, Constitutional Officer	
Version	Final	
Dated	11 July 2011	
Key Decision?	No	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	No	No
Finance Director	No	No
Strategic Director of Environment	Yes	Yes
Date final report sent to Constitutional/Community Council/Scrutiny Team	11 July 2011	