

For General Release

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| REPORT TO: | COUNCIL 4 DECEMBER 2017 |
| SUBJECT: | THE CROYDON DEBATE: a) LOCAL PETITION DEBATE |
| LEAD OFFICER: | Stephen Rowan, Head of Democratic Services and Scrutiny |
| WARDS: | ALL |
| CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT: This report is prepared in keeping with paragraphs 3.11 to 3.13.6 of the Council Procedure Rules at Part 4A of the Constitution. | |

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 In accordance with Part 4A of the Council's Constitution one borough-wide petition and one local petition can be debated under the Croydon Debate item. A local petition was received and the wording is presented below at para 2.1 in the body of this report.

2. LOCAL PETITION

- 2.1 A local petition was received by the Monitoring Officer. The wording of the petition received is detailed below:

"Save Matthews Yard!

I am concerned about plans for the demolition of the building at 5-9 Surrey Street which Matthews Yard is based in and that no alternative home has been found.

Matthews Yard is an essential asset for many people in Croydon's community and has for 5 years been a springboard for grassroots groups and business including the Croydon Citizen, Croydon Tech City, Croydon International Film Festival, Soda Soda a theatre group for people with learning difficulties and hundreds more.

I urge Croydon Council and the Mayor of London to support this worthwhile cause in any and every way possible as without it Croydon will undoubtedly be a much poorer place. This vital community asset must be preserved for the benefit of existing and future generations in Croydon."

2.2 The rules for debate for a local petition are set out in paragraph 3.13.6(b) and are set out below:

- i. The Lead Petitioner or their representative may address the Council on the Petition for up to three minutes from the public gallery;
- ii. A Member of the Majority Group may then speak for up to three minutes;
- iii. A Member of the Opposition Group may then speak for up to three minutes;
- iv. A Member of the Majority Group may then make a final response for up to one minute and summarise the next steps to be taken in the matter;
- v. No further debate shall take place on the Local Petition thereafter.

2.3 After the procedural steps stated in paragraph 2.2 have been completed, there shall be no further debate and no vote taken.

CONTACT OFFICER:

James Haywood, Senior Democratic Services and
Governance Officer
Ext 63319.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS: None.