

**Petition - Environmental and biodiversity risk assessment for use of public land dealt with – Action agreed etc – Reference to Environment, Sustainability and Carbon Reduction City Policy Committee - Instruction to Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability.**

4 There was submitted a report by the Director of Legal and Administration advising of a petition on behalf of individuals, containing 93 signatures, 25 of which had been validated in accordance with the approved criteria, submitted by Chrissy Sanachan, Principal Petitioner, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, which highlighted the petitioners' concerns and the outcomes sought by them in relation to their petition, together with comments and proposals from the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability regarding the issues raised in the petition, as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report.

The committee heard Chrissy Sanachan, Principal Petitioner, and Sally Johnson in support of the petition, which stated the petitioners' views and the aim of the petition calling for this Council to demonstrate commitment to sustainability, net zero emissions and protection of biodiversity by requiring transparent assessment of public land use and its environmental impact in regard to statutory Licenses and Permission to Use contracts for individuals, groups and companies seeking to use public land for events, gatherings and commercial purposes, that was publicly available, highlighting the requirement for new process standards to ensure the petitioners concerns were addressed as set out at paragraph 1 and 2 of the petition statement as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

After consideration, the committee agreed

- (1) agreed
  - (a) that the issues raised in the petition deserved further attention;
  - (b) to refer the petition to the Environment, Sustainability and Carbon Reduction City Policy Committee for further consideration; and
- (2) instructed the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability to liaise with appropriate officers, on a cross-cutting basis, who reported to the Licensing and Regulatory Committee and the Contracts and Property Committee in respect of the Licensing of public events and Permission to Use contracts, in particular, concerning the environmental and bio diversity impact of such events to ensure transparency of all related processes and support public confidence in the process and that communication of all information in regard to these matters was readily available to citizens in the city in order to address the concerns raised by the petition.