

Committee: Cabinet

Date of meeting: 13 September 2017

Subject:	E-Petition in respect of making public tennis courts free again
Lead Officer:	Ian Burrows, Head of Leisure and Cultural Services
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Mrs. J.R. Turner, Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture
Link to Council Priorities:	All
Exempt information:	None
Delegated status:	For resolution
Key Decision:	No

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

To consider an E-petition in respect of making the public tennis courts free again.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Cabinet is recommended to consider the E-petition.

REPORT:

1. In accordance with the provisions within the Council's Constitution, an E-petition containing 1,379 online signatures has been submitted for consideration by Cabinet. The petition contains the following wording:

“We the undersigned petition Elmbridge Borough Council to: make public tennis courts free again.

Throughout Elmbridge the public tennis courts have up until recently been free access to all and widely used, encouraging people / families to keep fit and healthy as well as encouraging youngsters to take up tennis. Elmbridge Borough Council (in partnership with the LTA) have introduced a 'pay & book' system, allowing keypad access only to courts. The courts used to be in constant use - not so since the new system was introduced. In the council's recent survey about the use of tennis courts 68% of people said they would not use the courts unless they were free and yet even so the charges have been introduced. We are petitioning the council to reverse their decision and remove the new charges via all the signatures on this link
<https://www.change.org/p/andy-muddyman-elmbridge-borough-council-make-public-tennis-courts-free-again>”

Financial implications:

None for the purposes of this report.

Environmental/Sustainability Implications:

None for the purposes of this report.

Legal implications:

None for the purposes of this report.

Equality Implications:

None for the purposes of this report.

Risk Implications:

None for the purposes of this report.

Community Safety Implications:

None for the purposes of this report.

Principal Consultees:

None for the purposes of this report.

Background papers:

None.

Enclosures/Appendices:

None.

Contact details:

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