

<b>Hackney Palestine Solidarity Petition</b>	
<b>Pensions Committee</b> 30 September 2021	<b>CLASSIFICATION:</b> Open
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED</b> N/A	

## 1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 Hackney Council received a petition from Hackney Palestine Solidarity in June 2021. The petition is available at the link <https://www.change.org/p/hackney-council-divest-from-companies-that-support-the-occupation-of-palestine>

## 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Pensions Committee note the petition.

## 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In June 2020, Hackney Council received a petition from Hackney Palestine Solidarity calling for the London Borough of Hackney Local Government Pension Scheme to disinvest from all companies associated within the Occupied Palestinian Territories. At the time of receipt, the petition included 58,000 signatures, the majority of which had been supplied electronically.
- 3.2 Under Part 6 of the Council's Constitution, the Council Petitions Scheme sets out that in order to be considered valid, the signatory should either live or work in Hackney. Following a review of the signatories, there were 516 signatures considered valid under the scheme, based on the postcodes supplied. This falls below the threshold of 750 signatures required for a petition to be formally considered.

3.3 Therefore, the petition will be treated under the section 6.2 of the scheme marked "General Petitions" -

"Once received, Governance Services will arrange for the petition to be reported either to the senior officer in the service area concerned or to the next relevant meeting of the Committee or Sub Committee with the power to make the decision sought by the petition. In the case of a Committee or Sub-Committee, the petition will be reported to the next ordinary meeting of that body."

3.4 The petition has been referred to the Pension Committee to note. The Lead Petitioner has requested to briefly address the Committee, and the Chair has given his consent for this.

<b>Report Author</b>	Rabiya Khatun Governance Services Officer 0208 356 6279 <a href="mailto:Rabiya.khatun@hackney.gov.uk">Rabiya.khatun@hackney.gov.uk</a>
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