



<b>Subject:</b>	Motion – E-Petition Mechanism
<b>Date:</b>	20th September, 2019
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John Walsh, City Solicitor/Director of Legal and Civic Services
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer,

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b>	
<b>After Committee Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>After Council Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Sometime in the future</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Never</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Call-in</b>	
<b>Is the decision eligible for Call-in?</b>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues</b>
1.1	To consider a motion on an E-Petition Mechanism, which was referred to the Committee by the Council at its meeting on 2nd September.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
2.1	The Committee is requested to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consider the motion and whether the Committee wishes officers to research the issue, and bring back a report on how this would be facilitated, resourced and managed.</li></ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	At the Council meeting on 2nd September, the following motion was proposed by Councillor O'Hara and seconded by Councillor Hutchinson:  "E-petitions are an opportunity for citizens of the City to bring forward issues of concern over which this Council has authority. They widen access to the democratic process and bring governmental structures closer to the citizens we represent. Similar

	<p>processes are in place across these islands and Europe at a variety of administrative levels. In the continuing absence of a local Assembly and the democratic deficit it creates, it is imperative that this Council does what it can to enhance and broaden access to the democratic process.”</p>
3.2	<p>In accordance with Standing Order 13(f), the motion was referred without debate to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.</p>
	<p><b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b></p>
3.3	<p>None</p>
	<p><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></b></p>
3.4	<p>None</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices - Documents Attached</b>
	<p>None</p>