

Your ref:
Our ref:
Please ask for: Lisa Cooper
Direct dial no: 01424 787813
Date: 18 July 2025



To: Lead Petitioner

Lorna Ford
Chief Executive

Town Hall
Bexhill-on-Sea
East Sussex TN39 3JX

Dear Lead Petitioner,

PETITION – PETITION TO SAVE THE COLONNADE SHOPS AND HUGHIES CAFE

In accordance with the Council's Petition Scheme, I am writing to confirm the decision made by Council in respect of the above Petition. This letter sets out the Council's formal response to the Petition.

As you are aware, the Petition was debated at the full Council meeting held on Monday 14 July, and as lead petitioner, you addressed the Council for five minutes to provide the background and rationale for the petition.

At the conclusion of the debate, the Council resolved (unanimously) the following:

RESOLVED (unanimously): That Council notes the petition and public support for our retail and catering tenants at the Colonnade and agrees the following points:

- We can guarantee that we will take into account the good relationships and excellent track record of existing tenants when new applications are assessed.
- All our leases offer fair terms as standard, and the Council can demonstrate a long history of being a responsible and supportive landlord and partner to small businesses.
- The Council can confirm that its intention to repair the Colonnade has been clearly communicated to Colonnade tenants and wider stakeholders. While timeframes have been subject to change, the Council has taken steps to keep tenants updated of these changes.

This Motion as constructed will permit officers to give preferential treatment to the existing traders without then binding the Council to acting ultra vires (outside the law), in accordance with commercial sensitivities and the rules surrounding best value.

A copy of this letter will be published on the Council's website, appropriately redacted.

Yours sincerely

Lisa Cooper
Democratic Services Manager