

COUNCIL

24 JUNE 2009

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHIEF SOLICITOR

### ACTION TAKEN ON PETITIONS

Council Members are asked to note the action taken in relation to the under-mentioned petition which was presented to Council, by Councillor G Miller, on 24 September 2008 and reads as follows:

**We the undersigned would like to back the re-opening of Rickleton Chapel as a Community Centre for the local areas.**

The petition was signed by 653 people.

Rickleton Chapel is not owned by Sunderland City Council. It is understood that the building is currently being sold by the City Church of Newcastle and a third party organisation has expressed interest in purchasing.

The Director of Community and Cultural Services, following consultation with Councillor Speding the former Member with Portfolio for Culture and Leisure has agreed the following action:

- The petition to be declined as Rickleton Chapel is not owned by Sunderland City Council and there is interest being expressed by others in bringing the facility back into use.
- An analysis of local community provision and capacity would suggest alternatives could be explored.