

1. Petitioner information

In the box below, give the name and address of each individual, business or organisation submitting the petition.

The London Borough of Havering
Town Hall
Main Road
ROMFORD
RM1 3AR

In the box below, give a description of the petitioners. For example, “We are the owners/tenants of the addresses above”; “My company has offices at the address above”; “Our organisation represents the interests of...”; “We are the parish council of...”.

We are the local authority owning the market rights to operate Romford Market which is a large open market with 270 stalls, located in Romford. Romford Market is open on Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 8.30 am to 4.30 pm (5 pm on Saturdays). Under the Royal Charter of the Liberty of Havering granted by King Henry III in 1247 of which we are the current beneficiary no other market is permitted to set up within six and two-thirds miles of Romford Market.

2. Objections to the Bill

In the box below, write your objections to the Bill and why your property or other interests are **directly and specially affected**. Please number each paragraph.

Only objections outlined in this petition can be presented when giving evidence to the Committee. You will not be entitled to be heard by the Committee on new matters not included in your written petition.

1. The London Borough of Havering is the beneficiary of the market rights pursuant to the Royal Charter of the Liberty of Havering granted by King Henry III in 1247 which prohibit the setting up of any other market within six and two-thirds miles of Romford Market. Any market within a radius of six and two-thirds miles of Romford Market is deemed to be a Rival Market. The purpose of the long established prohibition on the setting up of Rival Markets is to preserve the integrity and ongoing commercial viability of Romford Market.
2. We do not enforce the prohibition absolutely, and will permit Rival Markets that do not threaten the integrity and ongoing commercial viability of Romford Market through the grant to such markets of Market Rights Licences by the terms of which such Rival Markets are controlled and regulated.
3. The proposed site envisaged for the relocation of Billingsgate Market and the London Central Markets at Dagenham Dock is within six and two-thirds miles of Romford Market. As such, when relocated Billingsgate Market and the London Central Markets will be Rival Markets. On the understanding that Billingsgate Market and the London Central Markets when relocated to the proposed site will operate exclusively for the supply of goods on a wholesale basis, we would not be concerned about their operation because on that basis they would not threaten the integrity and ongoing commercial viability of Romford Market.
4. However, the City of London (Markets) Bill as presently drafted fails to stipulate that the markets relocated to the proposed site at Dagenham Dock may only operate for the supply of goods on a wholesale basis and/or to expressly prohibit any sales of goods by retail at or from the said markets. As such there would be nothing to prevent the development of retail trade at or from the said markets which would threaten the integrity and ongoing commercial viability of Romford Market.
5. As beneficiary of the market rights pursuant to the Royal Charter of the Liberty of Havering granted by King Henry III in 1247 as aforesaid, we are directly and specially affected by the risk that retail trade may develop at or from the markets relocated to the proposed site at Dagenham Dock which would threaten the integrity and ongoing commercial viability of Romford Market.
6. Accordingly, we object to the City of London (Markets) Bill as presently drafted because it fails to stipulate that the markets relocated to the proposed site at Dagenham Dock may only operate for the supply of goods on a wholesale basis and/or to expressly prohibit any sales of goods by retail at or from the said markets.

What do you want to be done in response?

In the box below, tell us what you think should be done in response to your objections to the Bill. You do not have to complete this box if you do not want to.

You can include this information in your response to section 3 'Objections to the Bill' if you prefer. Please number each paragraph.

We petition that the City of London (Markets) Bill should (1) make clear in its terms and provisions that the markets relocated to and permitted to operate at the proposed site at Dagenham Dock may only operate for the supply of goods on a wholesale basis and (2) expressly prohibit any sales of goods by retail at or from the said markets.