

Full Council

18 July 2017



Report of: Shahzia Daya, Service Director – Legal & Democratic Services

Title: **Petition debate – “Let Bristol breathe clean air”**

Ward: Citywide

Recommendation

That Full Council debates the petition and refers it to the Mayor / relevant Cabinet member for a formal response.

Summary

Under the Council’s petitions scheme, where a petition has 3,500 or more signatures from people who live, work or study in Bristol, the petition organiser can request a Full Council debate.

The Council has received a petition entitled “Let Bristol breathe clean air”

The petition organisers have requested that Full Council debates the petition.



Details of the petition

1. The wording of the petition is as follows:

Petition title / subject: "Let Bristol breathe clean air"

Petition wording:

"Bristol's air pollution is above legal and safe limits and urgently needs to be reduced.

Air pollution causes permanent lung damage in babies and young children and exacerbates lung and heart disease in older people, and particularly affects people living in the city centre and near busy roads. It leads to an estimated 300 premature deaths in Bristol each year. This compares to about 9 people a year killed in road traffic accidents in the city.

London and other cities are implementing Clean Air Zones. Bristol should not be left behind. The people of Bristol deserve healthy, clean air.

We call on the Mayor to take steps to implement a Clean Air Zone in the city, including measures to make the bus fleet less polluting, to discourage the most polluting motor traffic in the city centre and near schools, and to prioritise strong measures to promote walking, cycling and public transport."

2. The petition organiser is Jane Stevenson.
3. The petition secured 4,370 signatures.
4. The Full Council is asked to debate the petition.
5. Under the petition scheme, the petition organiser is permitted up to 5 minutes to present and speak to the petition. The petition organiser has advised that Jon Eccles will present the petition at the meeting. The petition scheme allows a further period of up to 15 minutes for discussion of the petition by councillors at the Full Council meeting.
6. The Full Council has agreed the following in relation to dealing with petitions with over 3500 signatures:
The topic of the debate should be referred to the Mayor/Cabinet, or other relevant body with the petitioner views and Full Council's views.

RECOMMENDATION

Following the debate, the Full Council is recommended to refer the petition to the Mayor, in order that the Mayor can consider his response, in liaison with the relevant Cabinet member(s).