

# Full Council 14 November 2017



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

**Title:** **Petition debate – “Save Clifton library”**

**Ward:** Clifton

## **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 “Save Clifton library”

The petition organiser has requested that Full Council debates the petition.



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## Details of the petition

1. The wording of the petition is as follows:

Petition title / subject: "Save Clifton library"

Petition wording:

"We the undersigned draw the attention of Bristol City Council to the importance of Clifton Library to the local community. We reject the current proposals and call on the Council to investigate every possible means of keeping libraries open, including successful schemes operated by other local authorities such as City of York Council."

Additional comments / background information from petition organiser:

"Reading should be recognised and promoted as the basis of learning at all stages of life.

Our library is:

- \* the only public community facility in the area
- \* a vital link for many older people
- \* the only online public facility for people who do not have home IT."

2. The petition organiser is Michael Barton.
3. The petition secured 4242 signatures meeting the petition scheme criteria.
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 Catherine Howie will speak to the petition on his behalf. 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's 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.**