

Full Council
11 September 2018



Report of: Quentin Baker, Interim Director - Legal & Democratic Services

Title: **Petition debate – Ashton Court miniature railway**

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 in relation to the Ashton Court miniature railway.

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: Ashton Court miniature railway

Petition wording:

“We, the undersigned, wish the Council to agree an affordable rent with the Bristol Model Engineers so that they may continue to operate their Miniature Railway in Ashton Court for the enjoyment and benefit of all who live in Bristol and surrounding areas.”

2. The petition has been organised by the Bristol Society of Model and Experimental Engineers.
3. The petition has secured 6601 signatures to date, 5131 from Bristol residents.
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 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.