

STATEMENT A7 – Alice Ellis

Dear Councillors

We've had such an amazing reception from your community. There has been overwhelming support for Arc, from residents, local businesses, Harbourside visitor attractions, councillors, design experts, the Cathedral...and most of your officers.

Obviously, we're hugely disappointed that, after three years of working with the Council - and having been advised by senior officers that We The Curious is the right location - our application is recommended for refusal. And clearly we totally disagree that the benefits do not outweigh any heritage harm.

Among those many benefits are:

- Economic: The £13.3 million new spending each year will generate more than 400 new jobs (70-80 at Arc/We The Curious) and support the recovery of not just We The Curious, but all businesses and visitor attractions impacted by COVID. Arc requires no public money at all;
- Social: we'll reinvest 10 per cent of our profits into free & subsidised tickets; we'll work with We The Curious to open the doors to as many children and adults as possible, from all communities, to help rebalance the education gap; we'll find and train local guides to tell stories from across the whole city, encouraging people who might not otherwise visit the Harbourside to come and join in; as Cllr Stephen Pearce said: "Lots of people currently don't identify with the harbour at all - Arc will change that."
- Environmental: we're totally solar-powered (in fact, we'll produce more renewable energy than we need, which We The Curious will use); Arc's engineering is so quiet it will not be heard; the cabin docks on top of We The Curious, minimizing any visual 'harm'; and Arc's elegant design will add positively to the city-scape.

Bristol is a creative and dynamic city. When I look around Bristol, particularly Harbourside, it seems to me to be a city that has always embraced both its past and its future, always open-minded and curious. It seems very unlike Bristol to say no to something that is new, exciting and beautiful. Even when the new is different from the old.

Please join our many enthusiastic supporters, and allow us to bring this unique, world-first visitor attraction to Bristol, before we expand into other wonderful global cities.

Thank you.

Alice Ellis, Project Manager, Arc Bristol