

Full Council

19 July 2016



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

Title: Petition – Residents parking schemes

Ward: Citywide

Officer Presenting Report: Non-applicable

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 "Halt any further Bristol residents parking schemes and roll back all in place."

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



Details of the petition

1. The wording of the petition is as follows:

Petition title / subject: “Halt any further Bristol residents parking schemes and roll back all in place”

“This petition has been created to call for the roll back and cancellation of existing Residents Parking Schemes in Clifton, Clifton Down, Cliftonwood and Hotwells, Cotham, Redland, Montpelier, St Pauls, Easton and St Philips, Redcliffe, Spike Island, Bedminster East and Southville. Furthermore the undersigned wish to see the temporarily paused plans for RPZ “outer ring” fully cancelled for Ashton, Bedminster West, Windmill Hill, Totterdown and Bishopston, Ashley Down, St Andrew's, and St Werburghs.

In our opinion: The city council's RPZ schemes have been disastrous, with businesses closing and leaving Bristol as leases expire. People have lost or been forced to leave their jobs. Residents are getting parking tickets for parking outside their own homes. Residents and visitors are often finding nowhere to park and are circling around for anything up to an hour looking for a parking space. Cherished areas of Bristol such as Clifton are suffering with some traders reporting business down by 50%. All schemes should be immediately revoked to provide relief, rolled back and at the very least redesigned with proper consultation performed with residents, businesses, and the universities.”

2. The petition started on 19 May 2015 and closed on 31 May 2016. The time span of the petition therefore largely covered the last year in office of the previous elected Mayor.
3. The petition secured 4389 signatures, 4075 of which were from Bristol and the immediate “travel to work” area.
4. The Full Council is asked to debate the petition.
5. Under the petition scheme, the petition organiser (Edward Bowditch) 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 views and Full Council's views.

The Full Council is therefore recommended to refer the petition to the Mayor, together with the comments as expressed by members in the debate at this meeting, in order that the Mayor can consider his response, in liaison with the relevant Cabinet member(s).