

Full Council – 10 January 2023

Agenda item 7

Petitions notified / presented by councillors



Procedural note:

Petitions notified / presented by councillors:

- Petitions can be about any matter the Council is responsible for or which directly affect the city.
- Councillors presenting petitions will be permitted to read out the objectives of the petition.
- A written reply will be provided to the councillor / lead petitioner within 10 working days of the meeting.



Petitions to be presented by Councillors:

The following petitions have been notified:

Petition CP 01 – Cllr Gary Hopkins to present petition

Petition wording:

Parks Funding: "We call upon the mayor to honour the agreement under the Parks and Green Spaces Strategy and make the funds available for local parks groups. Over 10 years ago local councillors in Knowle and Windmill Hill (backed by Filwood Councillors) agreed to land sales, with the promise from the council that all the money would go to parks and most of it to local parks. A part of Salcombe Road Recreation Ground was sold for affordable housing and most of the local money paid for local parks improvements. Some was held in reserve for future needs for local parks. A piece of land on the slope below Three Lamps in Windmill Hill ward was included in the deal but has not yet been sold. The new council administration (mayor) is saying that the deal will not be honoured and that local parks will not get the cash. Why is this important? Funding for parks, the value of which was recognised during the pandemic, has been drastically cut back and this local pot of capital is desperately needed to carry out essential repairs and improvements by the community. We have many volunteers to help deliver this, but they need the promised capital. Failure to honour this agreement puts every other potential deal with the city council in doubt.

Number of signatures – 705

Petition CP 02 – Cllr Tim Rippington to present petition

Petition wording:

Stop the Cuts to Brislington Buses: " We the undersigned call on WECA and Bristol City Council to do everything within their power to prevent the cuts to the 36 and 96 buses, due to come into effect in October 2022, or to provide the residents of Brislington with a suitable alternative so that people are not left isolated and unable to access health services, schools, libraries and hospitals.

Brislington is one of the parts of the city most poorly served by public transport – this was acknowledged by the Council and WECA in the 2021 submission to government for funds to help re-open St Anne's railway station. That report stated: "The area is currently poorly served by public transport...despite its large population (approx. 10,000). Existing public transport connectivity to the St Anne's area is extremely limited for both bus and rail transport provision.

The cuts proposed by First Bus, to services which currently only run every 30 minutes (36) or 2 hourly (96) will remove connections between St Anne's and the rest of Brislington altogether. People will be unable to get to the doctors surgery, to the public library, to Callington Road hospital, to Oasis Academy (a 55 minute walk for school children) or to any points in between. This affects many elderly people and those

without cars who are already severely limited in their public transport choices. It will also do nothing to encourage people to use their cars less – Brislington has one of the highest rates of car ownership in the city, for obvious reasons – there is very little alternative.

Whilst it is acknowledged that these are currently privatised services, and that there is a crisis in both recruitment and profitability amongst bus companies in the area, we feel that these services must be urgently prioritised and all efforts must be made to keep these vital services running.”

Number of signatures – 524
