

Petition: PP21.01

CABINET – 24 JANUARY 2022

Re: Agenda item 21. Bristol City Docks - Fees and Charges Review

Petition submitted by: George Colwey

Title: Save Bristol Harbour community from Reckless City Council, give us our Democratic process.

Wording:

Bristol's harbour community needs your support. The council has just published new fees for the harbour to be implemented with just 3 months notice. There is a potential increase in mooring fees of up to 177% this year depending on the location and licence offered. These increases are potentially unachievable for many users and the dramatic change could significantly impact quality of life: health, education, or standard of living.

The ferries, the boat dwellers, community organisations, leisure users and vast majority of the citizens and businesses who live and work in the harbour were not consulted by the Harbour Review Board beyond an initial "introductory meeting". The Board also deliberately failed to conduct even a basic impact assessment. This represents a total failure in the democratic process to ensure the protection of people's livelihoods, homes and families. This is not through lack of trying as several of the above mentioned groups have been trying to initiate a dialogue for the past year.

We are concerned that Mayor Marvin Rees has approved the new charging structure without having the chance to understand how its implementation will impact harbour stakeholders.

Boat dwellers are not mentioned in Bristol City Docks-Fees and Charges Review North Bristol Local Plan. It is evident that there is no understanding of or consideration for the boating community in council planning and decision making.

The iconic Ferry companies and all businesses operating in the Harbour could now face severe financial impact thanks in part to being shut out of the democratic process.

ACT NOW and sign/share this petition to demand that Mayor Marvin Rees withdraws his support for the proposed fees until the community has been consulted and a thorough impact assessment has been undertaken by engaging with all impacted stakeholders.

[Petition · Save Bristol Harbour community from Reckless City Council, give us our Democratic process. · Change.org](#)

Number of Signatures: 1776 signatures to date, 941 from Bristol residents verified 23rd January 2023