



Bristol Harbourside Churches

Parish of Holy Trinity and Saint Stephen's, Bristol



To whom it may concern,

We are writing on behalf of the Harbourside Parish, which includes the churches of Holy Trinity, Hotwells, and Saint Stephen's in the Old City – our parish encompasses Hotwells, Spike Island and the City Centre to the north of the Harbour. Harbourside incorporates the historic parish of Saint Stephen's which included all of the waterways in Bristol. So the wellbeing of those who live and make their living on the harbour are very important to our churches.

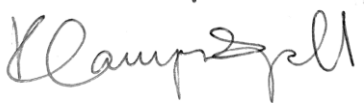
We have been made aware of the City Dock Fee Changes Review which is proposing nearly doubling the annual mooring fees for those who moor in Bristol Harbour.

As part of the harbourside community, we are deeply concerned about the impact this will have on the many people who reside on boats in the harbour, many of whom are families with young children or part of the GRT community. Given the current cost-of-living crisis and shortage of affordable housing in Bristol, these new fees will have a devastating effect on people who are struggling to cope as it is – increasing the chance of forcing them into poverty, or indeed homelessness.

We understand that these changes have come at very short notice with little to no engagement or consultation with the harbour community on the proposals, and without a needs-based assessment.

We urge the council, the Harbour Master and the Director of the Harbour Review to meet with the harbour community before introducing these fees, undertake the proper assessment and ensure those who reside in Bristol Harbour will not be deeply affected by any proposed changes.

Yours faithfully,



Rev'd Kat Campion-Spall
Rector of the Bristol Harbourside Churches