



Saltash & District
Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Established 1950

www.saltashbusinesses.co.uk



27 November 2008

Dear Sir

Thank you for the invitation to take part in the consultation process for the Tamar Bridge & Torpoint Ferry. The Chamber's position is this: -

The Chamber doesn't have a problem with annual price rises in line with or below inflation. We appreciate that prices have gone up and that planned maintenance is important. However, the Chamber has a serious issue with a huge proposed price increase on the back of a budgetary overspend of three million pounds. Thus the committee is asking the local business community to fund totally incompetent and inefficient business practices. It is scarcely believable that in times of financial crisis which are hitting the business sector harder than most, this overspend is being swept under the carpet and businesses are being asked to fund this discrepancy. It appears that this committee is trying to run this operation more and more like a business, but without the integrity of business. In the private sector, the person or persons responsible for this oversight would have been held accountable, and put through the necessary disciplinary procedure. However, the Tamar Bridge & Torpoint Ferry committee doesn't appear to have done anything but try and support or cover up this travesty.

In summary feel that the only price increase that is justified would be in line with or just below inflation, and there should be an independent review of this whole sorry affair with the necessary people held accountable and an assurance that procedures are in place that will not allow this to happen again.

Thank you again for allowing us to take part in the consultation process.

Yours faithfully

M Lovegrove
Secretary

C/O 30 Fore Street, Saltash, Cornwall. PL12 6JL

Businesses Working For Saltash