

To Whom It May Concern

**Re: Objection to Tamar Bridge Toll Increase and Its Impact on China Fleet Country Club**

I am writing on behalf of the China Fleet Country Club in Saltash to express our serious concerns regarding the proposed increase in the Tamar Bridge tolls. As the Managing Director of a business that is not only a cornerstone of the local community but also heavily reliant on cross-border traffic between Devon and Cornwall, I believe this increase will have a detrimental impact on both our operations and our members.

The China Fleet Country Club attracts a significant number of visitors from Plymouth and the surrounding areas. Many of our members and guests regularly use the Tamar Bridge to access our facilities, which include a golf course, health club, spa, and dining venues. An increase in tolls will likely discourage some of these visitors from making the journey, especially in a challenging economic climate where individuals and families are increasingly conscious of their discretionary spending.

Furthermore, this toll hike will directly impact our staff, many of whom reside in Devon and commute to Saltash daily. The additional financial burden of higher tolls could place unnecessary strain on our employees, potentially affecting staff retention and morale. This could also result in an increase in operational costs for the Club, as we may need to consider compensatory measures to support our staff.

The China Fleet Country Club contributes significantly to the local economy, not only through employment but also by drawing visitors to the area, who in turn support other local businesses. A decrease in visitor numbers due to increased travel costs could have a ripple effect, reducing the economic benefits that extend beyond our immediate business.

We urge the Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Joint Committee to reconsider the proposed toll increase. While we understand the need for infrastructure maintenance and improvement, we believe that the current economic conditions warrant a more measured approach, one that does not place an undue burden on local businesses and residents.

Yours sincerely,

Dean Bennett  
Managing Director  
China Fleet Country Club