



Grimsby Fishing Heritage Centre  
Alexandra Dock  
Grimsby DN31 1UZ

20 November 2024

Via e-mail: [gfhc@nelincs.gov.uk](mailto:gfhc@nelincs.gov.uk)

To whom it may concern:

Greetings from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). I'm writing with a suggestion to help modernise Grimsby Fishing Heritage Centre: display the world's first and only [Fish Empathy Quilt](#). By exhibiting this creative, colourful depiction of compassion, the centre could help visitors see fish and other marine animals in a whole new way – not as commodities to be “processed” and consumed but as the living, feeling beings they are.

This collaborative artwork, which features more than 100 unique squares contributed by fish-loving people, has already made quite a *splash* in the US, and we feel Grimsby Fishing Heritage Centre would be the perfect next stop. Boasting a total area of 28 square metres divided into six sections that can be displayed separately or clipped together as one large quilt, the beautiful piece continues to grow as more people contribute patches reflecting their appreciation for – and desire to protect – fascinating fish.

While they may travel in shoals, each fish is an individual with a distinct personality. Fish are sensitive emotionally and physically and possess complex nervous systems. They feel extreme pain when hooked and hauled from their homes, even experiencing what one expert calls “the bends on steroids”. They enjoy complex communication and show affection by gently rubbing against one another. Some even use tools and, like those who've contributed to this quilt, create artful masterpieces to express themselves.

The Fish Empathy Quilt beautifully reflects the fact that, as we become increasingly aware of fish sentience and the [grave environmental damage caused by fishing](#), more and more people are leaving fish off their plates. By displaying the quilt, you'd be part of a powerful movement that helps animals *and* the planet.

We'd happily deliver some delicious vegan fish fillets along with the quilt. I look forward to hearing from you soon. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Elisa Allen  
Vice President of Programmes  
PETA

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