

Highways & Traffic

Lewis House
Manvers Street
Bath BA1 1JG

Date: 18th November 2021
Our ref: TCY0013/HD/DST/01
E-Mail: Simon_thomas@bathnes.gov.uk

Mrs Hannah Downey
By E-Mail -

Dear Hannah

Re: City Centre Security, Traffic Regulation Order Proposals

Thank you for your time last week and opportunity to discuss the issues that are currently affecting you in relation to the Covid-19 social distancing scheme and the proposed security scheme we have recently consulted upon.

Regarding the points that were discussed, I outline these for reference, together with our own officer response.

- The existing 20minute loading bays on Terrace Walk are not well observed and therefore rarely available.
- A proposal for loading in coach bays before 10am is no good to your business, as guests need to be out at 10am and therefore requires all day access to enable your business to function.
- You have to carry heavy loads of linen, refuse and supplies from/ to Terrace walk, which can be time consuming and risks receiving a PCN, as can take longer than the permitted stay.
- Terrace Walk is a poor space and has been made poorer as a result of the closure of York St.
- Concern for pedestrian safety when coaches populated the area pre-covid and would like to see coaches provided elsewhere and the public realm improved, providing facilities for Bath residents and businesses, such as loading.

We acknowledge Terrace Walk could be considered a sub-optimal location for many involved, whilst providing some coach provision for the visitors to the city. Future changes will require careful consideration, particularly ensuring we explore all potential opportunities as areas of the city are redeveloped as these may provide a more holistic long-term approach to coach parking.

Another emerging opportunity that could be explored is the forthcoming assessment, as part of wider transport legislation changes, of the tour routes. This assessment could amongst many options consider the removal of the bus stand on the south side of Terrace Walk, thus potentially allowing the layout to be further reviewed. Further discussion would be required with the Operators, the West of England Combined

Authority and Traffic Commissioner before this change is able to come forward but it may again unlock a longer-term solution for this area and the identified problems.

Clearly, these are longer-term approaches and the space still requires a shorter-term solution to improve loading and parking facilities for those that work and live in the area and we will work with our teams to make available and manage the limited space for all users. The Director of Place Management along with the Cabinet Member for Transport would be keen to listen to your views on how this can be achieved as a Bathonian. Should you wish to meet and discuss further, we can arrange a meeting for you.

Hopefully the above explanation addresses your concerns and reassures you that we are committed to working with you and as such that it is sufficient for you to withdraw your objection you had to the Traffic Regulation Order for anti-terrorism purposes. As explained, an objection to the TRO would result in a costly public inquiry, which we would hope to avoid.

I should be grateful if you could come back to us with a response in writing by 5pm on the 22nd November 2021, ideally confirming that you are willing to withdraw your objection, or that you would wish to discuss matters further.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Thomas', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Simon Thomas
Senior Engineer
Design & Project Group