

On 3 Dec 2021, at 16:51, Hannah Downey > wrote:

**Subject:** Re: City Centre Security Anti Terrorism Traffic Regulation Order Objection

Dear Chris,

I have considered all the information you have sent to me and listened to what you and all your other officers have had to say during our meetings and phone calls this week.

I was not expecting to end up with such a weight on my shoulders and felt the pressure to withdraw my objection and because of this I have had to spend time considering my stance on this matter.

As I said in my original objection the access to our property has slowly been eroded away over the past 25 years and this is the last chance to save it from being cut off entirely to any reasonable access. If this scheme is implemented the easy accessibility of the city centre will be lost for good, not just for myself but for all the trades, business deliveries, residents and disabled people. I know you have said that the council will review the Terrace Walk area as a compromise but I have no guarantee that this will be done and certainly no confidence, after past history, that following this consultation it will even be looked at any time soon.

This week has been interesting to say the least. I don't think, reading the letter from the Chief Constable to Mr. Will Godfrey that the police did recommend a permanent closure of the city centre. The way I see it, the police had identified Bath as a high security risk and recommended security measures but not permanent closure. This is something the council wanted and the police were asked to support the council's proposal.

The fact that this week the leader of the council, Cllr Kevin Guy, has publicly in the press said that he does not support this 'ring of steel' is worrying.

To add to this we are being told that there is a wider security ring being proposed that has not been discussed in conjunction with the inner security ring makes no sense and just appears to be a rather shambolic to engage the public on a subject when we have not been given the whole picture.

On that basis I and the residents of Bath have a right to know exactly what the council are trying to achieve and we should be given ALL the facts before we are asked to make a judgement. Our security is a serious matter and if the leader of the council is saying that the proposal on the table is "Poor at best" then I can only draw to the conclusion that this must go to Public Inquiry. I will therefore NOT be withdrawing my objection.

Regards

Hannah Downey

Sent from my iPhone

On 3 Dec 2021, at 12:36, Chris Major <[Chris\\_major@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:Chris_major@bathnes.gov.uk)> wrote:

Dear Hannah

Myself and my officers have given you all of the information you have requested. However, at this time due to the statutory restraints placed on the Council for the implementation of traffic

regulation orders, we do need to request that you confirm to us by **10 am on Monday 6 December** your decision, in respect of your objection.

Whilst we do not seek to influence you in any way, if the objection remains outstanding the Council will have no alternative under the statute but to instigate a public inquiry.

Thank you for working with us and we look forward to your response.

Regards

Chris

**Chris Major** | Director of Place Management | Bath and North East Somerset Council |  
07530 263 334

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On 2 Dec 2021, at 16:53, Steve Froggatt <[steve\\_froggatt@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:steve_froggatt@bathnes.gov.uk)> wrote:

Dear Hannah,

Section 2 of the Cabinet report describes the recommendation that the Cabinet were asked to approve. This was "Option 4" which, subsequent to approval by Council on 20 July 2021, are the TRO proposals for the City Centre Security scheme that were formally advertised.

Section 9 of the Cabinet report details the three other options that were presented to Cabinet as other options that were considered.

The Chief Constable is of the view that the restriction of traffic from the main crowded areas at peak times is proportionate, and this is set out in paragraph 3.8 of the Cabinet report that states:

*Further to the initial ATTRO request and resulting engagement with the Council the Chief Constable of Avon and Somerset Police wrote to Bath and North East Somerset Council in March 2020 agreeing to amend the request of an Anti-Terrorism Traffic Regulation Order ("ATTRO") in respect of the roads which are identified as crowded places within the inner core of Bath City Centre (shown in Appendix 3). Further to the advice given to the Chief Constable by his CTSA's and the Centre of Protection of National Infrastructure on this matter, the Chief Constable is of the view that the restriction of traffic from the main crowded areas at peak times is proportionate, and he would welcome and support any scheme that limited vehicular access to these areas.*

The Council has been concentrating on the consultation for the Inner Anti-Terrorism Traffic Regulation Order, which requires us to restrict access within the core of the city centre.

The ATTRO for the wider area would give police powers to restrict access into the area using proportionate temporary measures if required or police/security resources if there was a specific need. The council would be expected to have plans in place to implement the ATTRO at short notice. The ATTRO for the wider area would only be used in the event of heightened threat, specific intelligence, as a result of an incident or if there are events taking place which created crowded areas.

Both ATTROs aim to robustly protect areas identified as crowded places from the threat of terrorism and are part of a holistic set of measures that the Police and the Council are working towards for the city centre.

Due to the statutory restraints placed on the Council in order to proceed with the Traffic Regulation Order's on the 1st January 2022, the Council has to make a final decision as to how to proceed.

I trust that this provides the information that you require, and I would be grateful if you could provide a response by return.

Kind Regards,  
Steve

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On 2 Dec 2021, at 13:30, Hannah Downey > wrote:

**To:** Steve Froggatt <[Steve\\_Froggatt@BATHNES.GOV.UK](mailto:Steve_Froggatt@BATHNES.GOV.UK)>

**Subject:** Re: City Centre Security Anti Terrorism Traffic Regulation Order Objection

Dear Steve,

I have read the information you sent me. Can you clarify what the Chief Constable is referring to when he says they would support 'Option 4'? What are these options and who decided what they were?

The way I am reading the Police report and other correspondance is that the Police only recommended proportionate and temporary implementations with in the city and it was the council who pushed for a permanent ban on cars in a smaller central zone.

We are now reading that there is a proposal for a much wider security ring around the city. Why has this not been discussed or considered in conjunction with the inner security zone? It is so illogical. It appears to me that this wider zone is a far more appropriate and will inevitably keep a larger number of residents, visitors and tourists safe during times where heightened security is required. It won't cause roads to be blocked and life made difficult unnecessarily for those living and working in the city 365 days of the year. The Police report listed the areas such as the Bath Rec. which regularly attracts very dense crowds which would not be protected by the very central zone at all.

My personal view is that we need a full and open debate on the security of the city as a whole not bit by bit and this should include any other road traffic schemes such as the clean air proposals that will all have a critical impact on how we move around and use our city, the two go hand in hand. If we don't do this we will end up with half baked schemes, rushed through that then have to be altered when they don't work wasting more and more public funding. The appears to be no managed strategy or joined up thinking.

Please would you clarify what the other options were. I will then make my final decision.

Regards

Hannah Downey

On 2 Dec 2021, at 09:33, Steve Froggatt <[Steve\\_Froggatt@BATHNES.GOV.UK](mailto:Steve_Froggatt@BATHNES.GOV.UK)> wrote:

Dear Hannah,

I hope that the information that I provided to you yesterday has been helpful in enabling you to conclude whether you wish to remove your objections, and it would be very helpful if you could provide your response to us as soon as possible.

However if you feel that you need any further information please let me know as soon as possible.

Kind Regards,  
Steve

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On 1 Dec 2021, at 17:15, Steve Froggatt <[Steve\\_froggatt@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:Steve_froggatt@bathnes.gov.uk)> wrote:

**Subject:** FW: City Centre Security Anti Terrorism Traffic Regulation Order Objection

Dear Hannah,

At the request of the Home Office, the National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO) carried out a security survey of Bath City Centre in September 2016. This identified the places around Bath Abbey and the Roman Baths as crowded places, and hence they are vulnerable to terrorist attack.

There is currently no specific intelligence to suggest that Bath is under increased threat. However, the current national terrorist threat to the UK is severe which means that an attack is highly likely, and such an attack could take place anywhere within the UK.

Council Officer's have worked with Avon and Somerset Police Counter Terrorism Security Adviser's (CTSA's) on these proposals, with the Chief Constable of Avon & Somerset Police writing to the Council to recommend the Council introduce an Anti-Terrorism Traffic Regulation Order ("ATTRO") in respect of all roads included within

the advertised TRO's. This is best set out in the Cabinet Report E3278 and approved on 20 July 2021 which I attach. I have not attached all Appendices, but attach correspondence from the Chief Constable as referred to within the Cabinet report.

These proposals form part of a layered series of preventative measures which are in accordance with advice from the Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure (CPNI), with the Police, CTSA's and CPNI confirming that the advice is still current.

The Council, Police and CTSA's view the City Centre Security proposals as being a proportionate response that follows recommendations from Central Government and the strategy for mitigating terrorism. The Council has worked closely with Avon and Somerset Police, their CTSA's and CPNI in formulating these measures that are specifically aimed at mitigating vehicle borne attacks, vehicles used as a bomb or vehicles being used to transport terrorists to within crowded places.

Whilst not directly mitigating against marauding weapons and firearms attacks, these proposals do form part of a holistic layered approach to security within the city centre that includes physical and non-physical measures. Working with key stakeholders such as the Police CTSA's, other measures include:

- (i) the training of staff in security and safety welfare and ensuring they are properly equipped and empowered to act effectively,
- (ii) working in partnership with those who are needed to make security work,
- (iii) the use of extensive CCTV within the City centre,
- (iv) operational procedures that have been developed by CTSA's through research and previous experience,
- (v) the provision of counter terrorism awareness training delivered by CTSA's to businesses and organisations throughout Bath & North East Somerset Council,
- (vi) regular deployments of the Avon and Somerset Police Project Servator teams,
  - (vii) the provision of temporary hostile vehicle mitigations (HVM) for events, such as the Christmas Market and Remembrance Services.

The above summarises what the Council is looking to achieve with its City Centre Security proposals. Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Kind Regards,  
Steve

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On 1 Dec 2021, at 14:49, Hannah Downey > Wrote:

**Subject:** Re: City Centre Security Anti Terrorism Traffic Regulation Order Objection

Dear Steve,

Thank you for this. Could I ask one last question. If it is the Police Commission that has requested this scheme to be implemented would it be possible to see their report? Or at least the evidence and or advice that the council was given by the Police that has led BANES to require this consultation in the first place. I am just trying to fully understand what it is the council is trying to achieve and if there are any potential alternative solutions to help resolve this matter.

Many thanks

Hannah Downey

Sent from my iPhone

On 1 Dec 2021, at 09:07, Steve Froggatt <[Steve\\_Froggatt@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:Steve_Froggatt@bathnes.gov.uk)> wrote:

Dear Ms Downey,

I have now had chance to speak to my colleagues who operated the online consultation, and your full response is as below:

I will give a bit of background first.

We have owned a property in Abbey Green for almost 25 Years and access has steadily been eroded away over time and this proposal will mean we will not have reasonable access to our property at all.

We eventually moved out of the property several years ago because council changes in the city centre made it unliveable so we rented it out as an HMO to students. They have all migrated to plush new purpose built accommodation with pool tables and common rooms that are popping up all over the city. So for the last five years we have rented it as a holiday home. Paying full business rates (in an business district) we have the same rights as as any other business in the area to comment and our views to be respected despite the common prejudice towards owners of holiday lettings. It is after all how I earn my living.

The council have failed yet again to really look hard at how the central area of Bath functions, who uses it and for what purpose. So many decisions over the years have been a waste of time, money and been damaging to the city. This is no acceptance.

-York Street was our final access point and is has already been closed during the day because of 'Covid-19' restrictions?? Why? However, I do not typically need access before 10am because guests check out at 10am! I need access during the working day after 10am. I am now forced to carry very heavy bags of laundry, supplies and rubbish all the way from Terrace Walk or I am forced to work in the evenings, if possible, when it is not rented, which is not that often.

-This costs more time and therefore money and is physically almost impossible.

-The provision of loading bays in Terrace walk (Bog Island) area is woefully inadequate and I am regularly getting tickets because there is no space available except in coach bays, now the traffic is forced out of York Street. I have mountains of photographic evidence.

-When the coaches return it will become unworkable and dangerous, it already was! again I have vast amounts of photographic evidence.

-Trades won't work inside the area, it is too difficult to access and they don't want to pay any charges or wait for gates to be opened and they can't park close. I have already struggled to get someone to unblock a drain and do a fire survey!

-Our property has been devalued immensely because of these restrictions.

-The council has to allow 'reasonable access' to property owners and this is falling far short of this especially, when we consider the access we had when we purchased the property.

-I see no reason why the closure has to be extended until 10pm along York Street. Schools using the new education centre surely won't be there at 10pm? and the area has NEVER been busy at night. Please justify.

-Coaches should be dispersed around the city (or moved out altogether) so ALL city traders can benefit from passing visitors not just the few along York Street who will at all cost want the coach parties to remain chocking up Bog Island because they have the monopoly on visitors who (only) walk to the Roman baths and back again. Everyone should be able to have a slice of this cake, Bath has more to offer than just the Baths.

- The visual effects of any implementations should be properly scrutinised and consulted with historical expertise. We are a World Heritage City and the council seem to forget this. The traffic schemes and street furniture that have been installed in recent years are hideous. The forests of unnecessary and confusing traffic lights in Widcombe and by Sainsburys are two examples. The London Road planting and awful chequer board paving that looks like you are driving into Bognor Regis not Bath. The cheep looking Tomato red seating in Union Street that is too small in scale and should be in a village not city centre to name a few.

We have a responsibility to pass this city on to the next generation preserved not ruined.

I have genuine passion for this city, its residents and visitors and its future.

I apologise that I was only able to send you a summary of your comments last night.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information.

Kind Regards,  
Steve

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On 30 Nov 2021, at 18:08, Steve Froggatt <[steve\\_froggatt@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:steve_froggatt@bathnes.gov.uk)> wrote:

**Subject:** RE: City Centre Security Anti Terrorism Traffic Regulation Order Objection

Dear Mrs Downey,

Your original response to the consultation was as follows:

“Holiday let in Abbey Green. York Street was our final access point and is has already been closed during the day. However, I do not typically need access before 10am because guests check out at 10am! I need access during the working day after 10am. Have to carry very heavy bags of laundry, supplies and rubbish to and from Terrace Walk. This costs more time and therefore money and is physically almost impossible. The provision of loading bays in Terrace walk area is inadequate and I am regularly getting tickets because there is no space available. Will be even more difficult when the coaches return. Trades won't work inside the area, it is too difficult to access and they don't want to wait for gates to be opened and they can't park close. Our property has been devalued immensely because of these restrictions. No reason why the closure has to be extended until 10pm along York Street. Coaches should be dispersed around the city so ALL city traders can benefit from passing visitors. The visual effects of any implementations should be properly scrutinised and consulted with historical expertise.”

Please let me know should you require any further information.

Regards,  
Steve

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On 30 Nov 2021, at 14:49, Chris Major <[chris\\_major@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:chris_major@bathnes.gov.uk)> wrote:

**Subject:** FW: City Centre Security Anti Terrorism Traffic Regulation Order Objection

Dear Hannah,

Thank you for your email. I have asked Steve (copied) to forward your response to you asap.

Regarding why it is pivotal for you to withdraw your objections, this is due to the requirements of the legislation. There are specific grounds on which a public inquiry must be called as below under The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) Regulations 1996 ("The 1996 Regulations") -

If such an objection is made and cannot be resolved the Council may be required to hold a public inquiry. Paragraph 9(3)(a) The 1996 Regulations sets out when a public inquiry is mandatory that being:

its effect is to prohibit the loading or unloading of vehicles or vehicles of any class in a road on any day of the week—

at all times;

before 07.00 hours;

between 10.00 and 16.00 hours; or

after 19.00 hours, or

its effect is to prohibit or restrict the passage of public service vehicles along a road.

If you do not withdraw your objection and we cannot resolve the issues with you we would be required to proceed to the public inquiry and this generates costs estimated at £60k+ and potentially a delay of up to 6 months. The independent inspector would consider through the public inquiry process the case as set out by the Council and make a judgement to whether the Local Authority had acted correctly through the processes. To be clear, the Council consider that in light of the advice of the Chief Constable and the Police colleagues within the Counter Terrorism Services that we have grounds on which to make the relevant Traffic Regulation Orders on grounds of public safety. We have been open and transparent at all times with the public to ensure that residents, visitors and businesses understand why we are pursuing the restrictions (appreciating that they still may not agree with them).

I really appreciate that there are a number of challenges that you face and we have committed to continuing the discussions going forward to identify options for consideration. However for this specific request we do need to confirm now.

If you do want to remove your objection, please reply in writing to me or my team as soon as possible.

Kind regards

**Chris Major** | Director of Place Management | Bath and North East Somerset Council |  
07530 263 334

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<image004.png>

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On 30 Nov 2021, at 15:24, Hannah Downey > wrote:

**Subject:** Re: City Centre Security Anti Terrorism Traffic Regulation Order Objection

Dear Chris,

I do appreciate your position and I have spent quite some time on the matter over the past few days.

Can I ask that you send me a copy of my original response to the consultation. As you know it was an online questionnaire and once you 'click to send' there is no copy.

I would be most appreciative and once I have had a final chance to look at this I will make a decision to uphold or withdraw my response.

Can you also let me know why it is so pivotal for me to withdraw? There must be other responses that have some dissatisfaction with the proposals but have been left within the consultation files and that won't be asked to withdraw.

Finally to whom/how do you want my formal response to be sent.

Regards

Hannah Downey

Sent from my iPhone

On 30 Nov 2021, at 09:56, Chris Major <[Chris\\_major@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:Chris_major@bathnes.gov.uk)> wrote:

Dear Hannah,

Do you have an update on your position as I have not received any confirmation from you?

As stated, without the withdrawal of the objection the Council will face significant costs of a public inquiry and as you can imagine we are keen to avoid this cost.

Please can you update me as soon as possible.

Regards

**Chris Major** | Director of Place Management | Bath and North East Somerset Council |  
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On 29 Nov 2021, at 10:14, Chris Major <[chris\\_major@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:chris_major@bathnes.gov.uk)> wrote:

**Subject:** RE: City Centre Security Anti Terrorism Traffic Regulation Order Objection

Dear Hannah,

Sorry to chase you on this but as explained, we are at the deadline for the next steps the Council will need to take.

Are you able to give me an update on your position please.

Many thanks

**Chris Major** | Director of Place Management | Bath and North East Somerset Council |  
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On 26 Nov 2021, at 18:33, Chris Major <[chris\\_major@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:chris_major@bathnes.gov.uk)> wrote:

**Subject:** City Centre Security Anti Terrorism Traffic Regulation Order Objection

Dear Hannah,

Thank you for your time today to discuss the issues that form the basis of your objection to the Anti Terrorism Traffic Regulation Order. I found it really helpful and very wide ranging in subject matter.

As explained, if we cannot find a way forward, we are required under legislation to instruct a public inquiry which will generate significant costs to the authority and further delay the critical public safety infrastructure being implemented if the outcome finds in favour of the scheme. This will be conducted in public with all evidence and objections being considered fully by the inspector which may require your attendance.

We explained that the evidence we will use for any public inquiry is as set out within the consultation, including the requests from the Police and their Counter Terrorism Advisors who have

been fully included within the development of the scheme. Whilst challenging for the city as a whole, we are advised by the Police that the actions proposed are proportionate to the potential risks being we are unfortunately facing in the current climate.

However, we acknowledge the challenges this scheme present to you as a business owner and resident of Bath. We cannot commit to resolving all of the issues you have raised, but I again assure you that they have been noted and we are committed to continue to look for solutions that work for you personally as well as the wider community. The local knowledge and intelligence we gain from residents such as yourself help us to shape the future direction of the city and without you we cannot ever get this right.

Therefore I am able to commit to continuing to work with you to understand the issues, and consider the longer term plans. I am also able to confirm that as discussed the funding window for the master planning and regeneration of Manvers Street is within the latest Central Government funding package and will be taken forward within this funding window. This would take into consideration the opportunities to remove coaches completely from Terrace Walk. As part of this, we will be constituting a formal stakeholder panel, and I would value someone with your knowledge and understanding of the issues to play a crucial part in ensuring that the outcomes are in line with your aspirations for the city as a whole.

However, as discussed we do need to consider how the city works for all stakeholders and understand the needs of all groups, particularly those with additional needs is a legal requirement of all public bodies. Therefore any decisions taken have to legally consider equality issues as part of the statutory processes.

We will also continue with the review of the Traffic Regulation Condition that is in place and allows the Tour Bus to use Terrace Walk to allow us to develop, with the Operator, any potential changes that may or may not bring forward solutions for Terrace Walk.

I have also asked for a further safety review of Terrace Walk to be conducted to ensure that we have an update view of the area. The outcomes from this review will need to be assessed technically and then will feed into any further changes to the area.

As we discussed, the deadline for this scheme to move forward has now been reached and I would request confirmation, one way or the other by close of business Monday. I appreciate we are down to the wire on this but hope that the ongoing engagement we have had reassures you to how seriously we take the safety and needs of the business community.

I look forward to hearing from you on Monday. Feel free to give me a call if you would like to discuss further on the number below but I do need confirmation in writing.

Kind regards

**Chris Major** | Director of Place Management | Bath and North East Somerset Council |  
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On 18 Nov 2021, at 09:20, Simon Thomas <[Simon.Thomas@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:Simon.Thomas@bathnes.gov.uk)> wrote:

Hi Hannah

Thank you for your time last week, it was nice to get out and meet some of the people that could be affected by the scheme proposals, and overall I felt that it was a valuable exercise.

Please find attached a letter detailing the issues outlined, together with our response.

Regards

Simon

---

**D Simon Thomas** Bsc (Hons) FIHE  
Senior Engineer  
Design & Projects Group

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