

Sent: 11 March 2022 18:12

Subject: Re: Fwd: York St Public Enquiry

Hi,

I would to echo Laurence's comments below. Since the closure of York St to traffic there has been a significant improvement in the public realm space surrounding the Roman Baths. This is seen in the improvement in our sales figures when the street furniture was allowed on York St and subsequent drop when they have been removed. It is also a visual improvement to have street furniture in the area and creates a European ambience to the area along with providing a safer space for people to move around.

Laurence has also worked tirelessly with the Bath Abbey Quarter Association and the TRO is part of the broader plan to help improve the Abbey Quarter precinct. I fully support the TRO and am available for comment if required.

Regards

Michael Potts

Director

Mrs Potts Chocolate House

Sent: 11 March 2022 12:04

Subject: Fwd: York St Public Enquiry

City Centre Security.

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> On behalf of The Abbey Quarter Business Association we would like to express our Full Support to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) on York Street.

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> The Abbey Quarter Business Association represents approximately 60, mainly independent businesses which include restaurants, cafes, hotels, pubs, retailers, the largest book store in England, art galleries and the world famous Sally Lunn museum and dining room. York St is the main pedestrian access to all of these as well as The Abbey, Roman Baths, Pump Room and the new World Heritage Centre.

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> The Association members and stakeholders have for many years requested that the full length of York St to be closed to vehicles. Vehicles have only ever been able to enter and exit York St from Orange Grove (Bog Island) access has not been available from Stall Street.

> This limited access has caused a major threat to public safety, all 60 Association members can each recall multiple incidents of pedestrian safety being compromised. Children strolling into the paths of moving vehicles. Cars reversing onto Kington Parade to u turn, narrowly missing people and street furniture Satnav's incorrectly directing traffic to Bath Street leaving frustrated tourists to reverse out of a pedestrian heavy road. York St with vehicle access will once again become "an accident waiting to happen ". Large vehicles in particular have also compromised the integrity of the pavements and the vaults beneath York street.

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> There also ought to be a full consideration of the security risk from terrorists. The UK terrorism threat level was raised from substantial to SEVERE on the 15 November 2021 , by reopening York Street to traffic leaves this highly tourism populated area at a high risk of an attack. Therefore the Abbey Quarter Business Association would like to put on record that Reopening the road (York St) to traffic would pose serious risk to public safety.

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> We would also like to commend the temporary (TRO) which has allowed us to put in place new delivery arrangements and adjustments to Street furniture which has added to the vibrancy of the area. The businesses have adjusted to having deliveries undertaken quickly and efficiently with many lorry suppliers not having to navigate the narrow road of York street reversing up and down and thus improving the air pollution. It is important that we adjust to the world that we live and work in and we have worked hard with suppliers to do this and it is fast recognised that vehicles cannot access doorstep deliveries nor collections which we as the customer support.

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> Bog Island, leading onto York street has become an important and significant 'drop off' point giving the footstep introduction into the City. With York street being closed to vehicles it allows visitors to step right into the heart of the City away from harm and into a cleaner air environment. It is also to be noted that we fully support this 'drop off' point for the above reasons but also as it allows the absolute limit on coaches and such like entering further into the City and creating lock jams and further pollution.

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> We look forward to working with the City Centre Security project team, the Public Realm team and other stakeholders to improve the safety, animation and environmental needs of York Street and the entire Abbey Quarter.

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> Yours sincerely

> Laurence Swan

> Chairman

> Abbey Quarter Business Association