



AVON AND SOMERSET CONSTABULARY

www.avonandsomerset.police.uk

Chief Constable Sarah Crew

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Will Godfrey
Chief Executive
Bath & North East Somerset Council

Our Ref: CC/WG

17th December 2021

By Email to:

Jo_Hobbs@BATHNES.GOV.UK

Dear Will,

Thank you for your letter of 9th December in which you provided me with an updated position on the progress of the Bath Anti-Terrorism Traffic Regulation Order (ATTRO).

In response to the first point raised in your letter, I reiterate that the police continue to be supportive of any proportionate protective measures to improve public safety and mitigate the threat of terrorism. My predecessor gave his recommendation to the proposed implementation of 'Option 4' as being a proportionate solution to the potential risks advised of, as confirmed by Mr Marsh in his correspondence to you dated 25 May 2021. We would happily supply a statement setting out the rationale for our support to aid the public inquiry as we still believe it to be a proportionate means to strengthen the protective security of the city.

Secondly, as to the publication and consultation process surrounding the outer ATTRO, I have sought advice from the Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure in regard to the legislation surrounding the circumstances and grounds for waiving the right to publication of the proposals. The ATTRO guidance states that the regulations:

'Enable the chief officer of police for the area to which the order relates to request that the ATTRO proposal or Notice is not published if they consider that to do so would risk undermining the purpose for which the Order is made (eg. advertising would give away details of the extent or nature of the security plan)'

I do not believe that the circumstances surrounding the outer ATTRO meet the legislative provisions for not publicising the proposal, and a lack of publication would certainly not be in the spirit of the legislation. This is especially the case as the outer ATTRO proposals contain no permanent measures and are likely to be invoked on an infrequent basis.

It is vital that we maintain the support and trust of our communities, and that is why, in the interests of transparency and accountability, I am advising that the Council should not waive the requirement to publicise the outer ATTRO proposals.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Crew', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Sarah Crew
Chief Constable