



**Bradford on Avon
Town Council**

St Margaret's Hall, Bradford on Avon BA15 1DE
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Councillor Dr Mark McClelland

Cabinet Office

Wiltshire Council

Bythesea Road

Trowbridge

Wiltshire

17th June 2022

Dear Mark,

Thank you for your letter of June 9th. I am sorry that the letter of May 9th from me, on behalf of the town council, did not provide the clarity you are looking for.

I would like to clarify the position of the Town Council as far as possible.

Our immediate goal is the improvement in the safety and comfort of cyclists and pedestrians for the reasons outlined in our cover letter with the 'Future of Transport' consultation report (6th April). There has subsequently been another very serious accident near the Town Bridge.

We believe the best way to achieve this is by implementing one way working on some parts of the network in the busy and constricted town centre and also adding mitigations on other roads that might as a result experience increased vehicle traffic. The mitigations should ensure that overall there is no increase in traffic through the town, and that roads subject to increased traffic should have enhanced pedestrian safety measures embedded from the start of any new scheme. Such an approach would, we believe, be a reasonable response to the findings of our consultation and be broadly welcome in the town.

We regard the reduction in traffic volume and improved air quality as overarching long term objectives, but understand that there are no immediate engineering (or other) solutions that will bring instant results.

Similarly, we do not seek engineered changes on a town-wide basis, but simply ask that that awareness is maintained with respect to likely knock on effects from any work that is proposed.

Kind regards,

Councillor Katie Vigar

Mayor of Bradford on Avon

9th June 2022

Cllr Katie Vigar
Town Mayor
Bradford on Avon Town Council
By E-mail:
cllr.vigar@bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk

Cabinet Office
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Our Ref:MM/LY/22498

Dear Katie

Thank you for your letter dated 9th May.

Despite a number of meetings to bring clarity to this situation, I find the Town Council's response to be confusing.

I believed that my letter of 28th April (and discussions prior to that with the town's Wiltshire Councillors) had been clear.

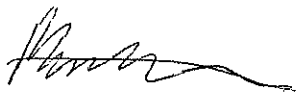
What I thought we had agreed was that any further staff or other funding availability from Wiltshire Council was conditional on the Town Council giving a clear mandate to support the principles of a general solution (as set out in my letter), and guided by the findings of your survey.

Although your letter begins with an indication of such an agreement, the Town Council's support is then immediately qualified by requiring the scope to be extended to a much wider proposition. I am also somewhat surprised that the town council's website refers to town councillors supporting "Wiltshire Council's traffic management approach" on 3 May. My letter of 28 April did not provide a Wiltshire Council approach but tentatively scoped out what I thought the town council was saying in the absence of a clear recommendation.

As I have explained, given previous experiences, I am not prepared to allocate funding to any further work without being confident of the Town Council's support – I'm afraid that your letter does not provide me with that assurance to proceed.

I realise that town councillors and officers in Bradford on Avon are not highways engineers – neither am I. However, this should not preclude the town council from being able to provide me with much more specific recommendations of how it wishes to proceed and the broad outline of a solution it would like Wiltshire Council to implement, which I can then take to my Cabinet colleagues to consider.

Yours sincerely



Cllr Dr Mark McClelland
Cabinet Member - Transport, Waste, Street Scene & Flooding

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9th May 2022

Cllr Dr Mark McClelland
Cabinet Office
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Bythesea Road
Trowbridge
BA14 8JN

By email: Mark.McClelland@wiltshire.gov.uk

Dear Mark,

Thank you for your letter dated 28 April 2022 which was discussed by members at Full Council on the 3 May 2022.

The members resolved to support the approach outlined in your letter and given the results of the "Future of Transport" consultation, we agree that the proposed way forward is a sensible basis on which to proceed. As a council we are extremely keen to see mitigation for areas likely to experience increases in traffic volumes embedded in any proposal from the start. Members would like to stress that the consultation questions, and the views expressed by residents, relate to town wide issues and are not centred solely on the area around the bridge. We would like to see initial thoughts that provide a strategy for the whole town and its wider connections, including measures that ultimately reduce traffic volume as well as address pedestrian safety and air quality concerns.

We look forward to sharing these potential solutions as they progress with the residents of Bradford on Avon through further consultation.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Katie Vigar
Town Mayor, on behalf all Town Councillors
Tel: 01225 864240

Cllr Alex Kay	Cllr Alison Potter	Cllr David Garwood	Cllr Emma Franklin
Cllr Jack Vittles	Cllr Jennifer Parker	Cllr Kate Bessant	Cllr Katie Vigar
Cllr Sam Blackwell	Cllr Sarah Gibson	Cllr Simon McNeill-Ritchie	Cllr Tim Trimble