

FOR THE ATTENTION OF MR DAVID TRIGWELL, DIVISIONAL DIRECTOR FOR PLANNING AND TRANSPORT:

Dear Mr Trigwell,

FoBRA's Planning Sub-Committee has met to consider these proposals for closure to normal vehicles of Dorchester Street, Manvers Street and Pierrepoint Street. Everyone understands the problems which the creation of a greatly enlarged Southgate shopping centre next to a new, larger bus station on the route which also serves the railway station has caused. Dorchester Street has become even more congested than before, giving rise to great delays for buses and taxis trying to reach or leave both stations, not to mention the effect on private cars and commercial vehicles and the resulting atmospheric pollution for all. It's inefficient, unpleasant and dangerous.

FoBRA therefore supports these kinds of measures in principle but would be pleased to take part in discussions about the detail, as we feel we have much to contribute. Meanwhile, we have the following suggestions:

- The subject and the proposed solution are complicated. We feel there should be better and clearer explanations of what is proposed and what are the options.
- Traffic modelling should be conducted in order to give confidence to what is proposed.
- We feel that whatever is decided should be staged as a trial (for 6 months or a year), so that observations can be made, conclusions drawn and the optimum solution found.
- As we understand the proposal, public service vehicles would be able to pass along Dorchester Street and out of each end freely. However, while private cars and commercial vehicles would be able to enter from either end, they would have to depart the same way, policed by automatic number plate recognition technology. If this understanding is correct, we foresee a problem with the road layout around the railway station because, as currently planned, vehicles leaving the north forecourt can only travel westwards, along Dorchester Street, thus adding to its congestion. We suggest this should be adjusted so that vehicles entering the station and departing from it would be able to do so via either Manvers Street or Dorchester Street (the same one, in the case of private cars and commercial vehicles, obviously). This should have the effect of helpfully reducing some Dorchester Street traffic.

I should be most grateful if you would acknowledge readable receipt of this email.

Robin Kerr



Secretary, Federation of Bath Residents' Associations
3 Lansdown Place East
Bath BA1 5ET

robin.kerrconsulting@uwclub.net
www.bathresidents.org.uk
01225 311549, 07767 788366