



APPENDIX A

29th June 2017

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you to clarify the current position with regard to the attendance of Nottinghamshire Police at Remembrance Day Parades and the reasoning behind the Forces decisions.

As a Force we are keen to show respect for the fallen and, wherever possible, to maintain a visible presence at Remembrance Day parades for community engagement, public safety and, in some cases, counter terrorism patrols.

In order to support these Remembrance Day events we need to carefully manage our resources to ensure 'normal business' continues and that our level of service to the people of Nottinghamshire is maintained. Last year we were aware of over forty parades taking place in the county, of which many had little or no formal traffic management arrangements in place. This meant that a high number of staff were required to assist in facilitating those parades which had an impact on our day-to-day operations and demands. Unfortunately, this is something we simply cannot sustain whilst attempting to support events.

Traditionally, the police have been seen as the relevant body to participate in such events by stopping/directing traffic. This is based more around historical and outdated arrangements rather than having the most appropriate organisation dealing with traffic management at parades.

Modern legislation places responsibility for managing the highway network onto the local traffic authorities. This means that Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council are the lead agencies for the approval of traffic management for events. It is these authorities which can permit the closing of roads for planned events and approve traffic management measures (Via East Midlands' carry out this function on behalf of Nottinghamshire County Council). However, responsibility for planning and providing the traffic management falls to the event organiser.

Our powers to close roads are only to be used in emergency circumstances (e.g. a road traffic collision) and it would be inappropriate for us to use these powers for planned parades such as these.





In addition to this, in previous years we have been the 'single point of failure' for some parades when performing a traffic management role. If, for example, organisers were expecting six police staff to assist with road closures at their parade and, on the morning of the event there was a major incident requiring a high level of resources, those six staff would undoubtedly be redeployed to where the operational need is greatest. This could mean that the organiser is suddenly faced with an event with no legal or safe way of closing the road to facilitate the parade thus meaning it may have to be cancelled. This, in the eyes of Nottinghamshire Police is not an acceptable outcome for you and is something we hope to resolve by emphasising the correct approach.

Over the last eighteen months staff from our Operational Planning Team have met with, and spoken to, a number of Royal British Legion Branches/NALC members/local councils about their individual parades and have supported them with appropriate advice and guidance. This has, in many cases, been done alongside our partners from the County Council & City Council Highways Departments.

Working closely with the Highways teams means that parade organisers can be correctly advised on how to apply for and obtain a legal road closure in the form of a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) and what the most appropriate traffic management infrastructure (signs/cones) would be. Any traffic management should be sourced by the event organiser.

Our work around Remembrance Day parades is on-going and we would ask that you continue to work with ourselves and Highways to ensure that your parades have the safest, most impactful routes for your communities and, above all, the most appropriate people performing the most appropriate roles.

We would be more than happy to hear from you if you have any questions or concerns around any of the above – please do get in touch via the contact details on this letter head.

Yours sincerely,

ACC Stuart Prior