

Your ref:  
Our ref:  
Please ask for: Mark Drummond  
Tel: 01271 345431  
Email: mark.drummond@northdevon.gov.uk  
Date: 16 September 2021

Devon Highways  
Devon County Council  
Topsham Road  
Exeter  
EX2 4QD

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Gratton Way/Old Torrington Road, Barnstaple**

I have been asked by the North Devon Crematorium Joint Committee to write following the HATOC decision to proceed with the Gratton Way bus gate move to Old Torrington Road.

It is recognised that the decision is final, but legitimate concerns remain and it is hoped that the implementation can be constructively reviewed in a way that maintains the decision and its benefits (particularly to residents), whilst mitigating the concerns for this long-standing and vital public service provided by North Devon and Torridge District Councils.

As it stands no consideration has been made for the Crematorium's operations and it is felt that some small adjustments in the implementation could mitigate the concerns without changing the decision. If implemented without adjustments the crematorium will incur additional costs (to provide a waiting area for any early funeral cortege) and clearly much greater risk of delays to services caused by the single access route.

As the manager of the site I have considerable understanding of local traffic issues as well as the likely impact on crematorium operations which affects thousands of residents every year. My previous role for 30-years as a Police Officer included highways liaison with London Boroughs should help to identify solutions. An illustration of this was my highlighting the omission of an emergency vehicle exemption in this proposal (and the current Gratton Way Order of 2000) which I note was amended for the HATOC meeting.

Please involve myself as the representative of the Councillors who form the Joint Committee in any further implementation considerations/discussions.

Yours sincerely,

Mark DRUMMOND  
Crematorium Manager