

Following being told, by Bristol City Council (BCC), that the traffic monitoring systems were being installed in connection the ongoing Hengrove Park Development. I contacted BCC. This is the response from them followed by my reply to them.

EMAIL FROM TO BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL 30 April 2019

From: Jodi Savickas [<mailto:jodi.savickas@bristol.gov.uk>]

Sent: 30 April 2019 10:12

To: Kim Hicks; Complaints and Feedback <complaints.feedback@bristol.gov.uk>

Cc: City Transport <city.transport@bristol.gov.uk>; Emily Price <emily.price@bristol.gov.uk>; Abigail Stratford <abigail.stratford@bristol.gov.uk>; claire_cornelius@bathnes.gov.uk; Adam Crowther <adam.crowther@bristol.gov.uk>

Subject: FW: URGENT: Traffic monitoring etc in the Whitchurch and Stockwood area

Importance: High

[Hi Kim,](#)

[Since your previous email, I've been trying to find out amongst colleagues more details on the cameras on Whitchurch Lane, hence my delay in replying to date.](#)

To reply to your questions:

- Are all the devices in the area installed in connection with the ongoing Hengrove park development as I have been told?

Having liaised with colleagues, I can only assume that this is the case. They are not for any specific road safety measure, nor are they for any further work on the SE orbital link as we are yet to even start working up the brief to commission further work on this, as I have explained before.

- Who, specifically, instructed the installation of the equipment?

If it is connected with the Hengrove Park development, it is likely to be installed by the consultants working on that on behalf of the Council. I have copied in the project managers for the Hengrove Park project who may be able to shed more light on this.

- Why has some of the equipment been removed after 2/3 days?

Sorry, I cannot comment on this, as I do not know the purpose of the cameras.

- Has the equipment in Whitchurch Village been installed for the same reasons and by the same people?

It is likely that this is the case. I have also copied in Claire at BANES who may be able to confirm this. As I said above, they ARE NOT for any further work on the SE orbital link as we are yet to commence any further work.

- Has the equipment been installed in connection with the BLP

No, this will not be the case. The Bristol Local Plan is not at a stage to safeguard any routes for new corridors, as I have explained before.

- Has the equipment been installed in connection with the JSP

The JSP is due to go to Examination in Public in July. We are not permitted to submit any further evidence to the Inspector prior to this date, therefore we would not be collecting any new data to support the case for the JSP. Having said this, there may be objectors to the JSP who have

commissioned their own surveys to support an opposing case, but I don't know who this would be so cannot comment. But can assure you again that it is not for any further work on the SE orbital.

- Which department has arranged to install the equipment? Please could you let me know the contact details for that person/department.

As mentioned above, if it is for the Hengrove Park development, I've copied in the project managers for that site who may be able to shed light. But as I've also said above, it could be a separate body who are seeking to collect data in order to build a case to object to the JSP.

- Is BCC and another council working together on a specific project on this occasion?

See above. BCC and BANES are not carrying out any further work on the SE orbital, so it is not for that reason. I've copied in Claire from BANES who may be able to provide any information on whether the Whitchurch Village cameras are for any BANES schemes, but can confirm we that there is currently no joint project that these cameras would be for.

Once again, I have given you all the information I have. Please be assured that you have everything I can tell you about the SE orbital project. Apologies for being blunt, but the time spent on reiterating responses to you on this is becoming challenging, as all your complaints and emails for this project are directed to me. I cannot be clearer when I say we are pausing any work on the SE orbital until after the JSP Examination in Public.

Jodi

Jodi Savickas
Transport Policy, Bidding and Strategic Projects Manager

Strategic City Transport
Bristol City Council
100 Temple Street
PO Box 3176
Bristol BS3 9FS

07900 825126

MY EMAIL RESPONSE TO BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL 1 May 2019

Hi Jodi

Thank you for taking the time to respond. I do believe you when you tell me that you have given all the information that you have. I am concerned that you may not have been given all the information in the first place. I was told that the monitoring IS to do with Hengrove Park. This was by BCC via your Facebook page. They then recommended that I contacted city.transport@bristol.gov.uk for them to answer my further queries. Do the people who operate your Facebook page have more information than you? Why would they then refer me to you for any further queries, especially if you are unsure as to if it is for the Hengrove Park Project?

Whilst I appreciate that you may be finding it challenging to respond to my questions, I can assure you that the questions are coming from a genuine place of concern. It is even more challenging for me to establish facts from people who are meant to have the residents' interests at heart. I am asking so that I can share facts and not rumours. I am however sharing the responses with over 2500 other 'concerned' residents, so the information that you are providing is being communicated to at least 2500 people. It is as a direct result of the Facebook group that so many more people have become aware of the plans. It has been a far more effective way of communicating the information compared with putting a notice up in the library.

Just to clarify where I am coming from. I have lived in Whitchurch for since 1981. When I first moved here we were told about a possible ring road running along the foothills of Dundry. I am aware that in 2009 house buyers were being told the same thing. I heard nothing more until.... I happened to hear, by accident, about the idea to use Whitchurch Lane as a ring road. This was just before last Christmas. A friend mentioned that there was a meeting being held by BANES in Whitchurch Village to discuss, amongst other things a ring road on Whitchurch Lane. The communication from Bristol City Council has been extremely poor. Very many local residents had no idea what was going on. This made people suspicious as to what is was going on behind their backs. The communication systems from BCC was extremely poor.

You say that you are pausing any work on the SE orbital until after the JSP Examination in Public. Then we hear of a HIF Bid for £250 million that includes money for Whitchurch Lane and the plans in the JLTP4 and the JSP. This is in spite of there being no conclusion to either consultations at the moment. This adds to the suspicion. My local councillor, Barry Clark, supported the HIF Bid whilst appearing not to understand what the implications were for Whitchurch Lane. This does not inspire confidence.

Without any notice or explanation, traffic monitoring systems are put up *all over* the area. Despite making reasonable enquiries by phone and email (a week ago), no one knew why it was happening or who had organised it. I was told that there was no-one that I could speak with, I had to email, look on your website, or contact BCC via Facebook. I could not see the answers on your website. I did all three to try and find out the answers as quickly as possible.

You say that you *assume* that they are installed in connection with the ongoing Hengrove Park development. I was told that it IS to do with Hengrove Park by BCC via your Facebook page, they then recommended that I contacted city.transport@bristol.gov.uk for them to answer my queries, this has been passed onto you. Again this adds to suspicion, when it gets passed back to you and you say that you are assuming that it is connection with Hengrove Park. Can you see that this appears not to make sense to a lay person?

I have been trying to find out when the JLTP4 goes to public examination. So far, it appears that it doesn't...**is that right? Who will be making the decision on the JLTP4?** Whoever it is needs to be accountable to the local residents, I am sure that you will agree.

@ Project managers for the Hengrove Park project. Please confirm the monitoring equipment to do with the Hengrove Park or not. If so, I was told, by BCC that the equipment is usually installed for 7 days. **Some are removed after 2 or 3 days, why?**

@ Claire in BANES. Can you throw any light on why the traffic monitoring equipment is in Whitchurch Village?

Would 'other bodies' have to have permission to set up traffic monitoring equipment, across roads and to set up cameras? Who ensures that the information that they collect is appropriate and the equipment is safely installed on the public highway?

Please can you clarify if the Ring road on Whitchurch Lane will be discussed at the JSP hearing? If it is, is that why you are pausing any work on the SE orbital until after the JSP Examination in Public? If not, what are the exact reasons for it being paused?

Just to clarify, I do not want to be in this position of having to ask these questions. I am a lay person with no experience of these matters. During the last 5 months I have had to hit the ground running and learn so much. It has taken hours and hours of my time. Some of the things that I am discovering are concerning. I have a life and have other things that I would rather be doing. I am doing all that I do on a completely voluntary basis, as neighbourly thing to do. I am sharing the replies with over 2500 people who may also be interested in the answers. I would have thought that it is best that the questions are focused and gathered rather than everyone, with concerns, emailing you individually.

If all the information, to answer my questions, was easily available, I would not need to contact you. If any of my questions are not appropriate please let me know. If you can suggest an alternative way that local people can gain the information that they need to know, about what is happening in their area, please also let me know.

I look forward to hearing from Claire and the project managers for Hengrove Park.

Thank you for your help.

With kind regards

Kim Hicks