

*Bryan Sweetland*  
Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways & Waste



Chief Constable Ian Learmonth  
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Your Ref:  
Our Ref:  
Date: 14 August 2012

Dear Chief Constable Learmonth

### **Managing Events on the Highway**

Following Kent Police's change in policy for events on the highway, the County Council have received a substantial number of complaints from local event organisers, District, Town and Parish Councillors. It is clear they are concerned about the change in policy, which withdraws Police support from events and places a burden both financial and organisational on those promoting such events. This is threatening the viability of events, which are very important to local people and help celebrate the local diversity among Kent's communities.

As a consequence of the level of concern, the matter was subject to a report and debate at the County Council's Environment, Highways & Waste Cabinet Committee on 4 July 2012. The Committee agreed that KCC continue to provide help and advice to event organisers and that I should write to you to request that you review your change in policy and continue to provide traffic control support for local events. Police control is not only important to minimise costs and burdens on event organisers, it is also often the best way to minimise disruption to traffic.

I therefore formally ask that Kent Police carryout a full and complete review of this change of policy.

I look forward to receiving the findings and actions from this review and hope that Police resource can be restored to local events in Kent.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Bryan Sweetland'. The signature is written in a cursive style.

**Bryan Sweetland**