



**Andy Adams**  
**Assistant Chief Constable (Central Operations)**

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Date: 29 August 2012  
Ref: AA/TS 3508/2012

Dear Mr Sweetland

Thank you for your letter regarding Managing Events on the Highway addressed to the Chief Constable who has passed this to me to respond.

The Kent Police Event Policy (M30) was reviewed and re-published on the 14 March 2012 and complies with national guidance and direction but, perhaps more importantly, it complies with the law.

The Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) issued, its Public Safety Policy in 2009. This policy and the Kent Police Events Policy are both accessible online for your reference:

- [http://www.kent.police.uk/about\\_us/policies/m/m030.html](http://www.kent.police.uk/about_us/policies/m/m030.html)
- <http://www.acpo.police.uk/documents/uniformed/2009/200910UNPSP01.pdf>

The police role at events is clearly articulated in the ACPO 2009 Policy and is reproduced below for your convenience.

*Assessment of the need for Police attendance and action at public events will be principally based on the need to discharge our core responsibilities which legal advice indicates are as follows:*

- *Prevention and detection of crime;*
- *Preventing or stopping breaches of the peace;*
- *Traffic regulation within the legal powers provided by statute, a Road Closure Order (Town Police Clauses Act 1847) or a Traffic Regulation Order (Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984);*
- *Activation of a contingency plan where there is an immediate threat to life and co-ordination of resultant emergency service activities.*

At this point, I would ask you to note that traffic regulation is different from traffic management and that police powers to regulate traffic for planned events are extremely limited.

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The organising of an event carries a great weight of responsibility and the organiser should enter this environment with the full understanding of the role they have to play. It is not the role of Kent Police to minimise costs to event organisers. Indeed, we have a duty to minimise the costs to taxpayers and this includes ensuring our resources are appropriately deployed in accordance with our policies, national directions and the law.

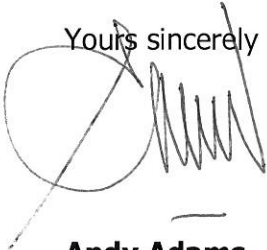
Kent Police will seek to support event organisers in developing their traffic management plans and officers from the force have been assigned to this task for sometime.

Legal opinion suggests that where events occur on a road then the Local Authority may also have a responsibility.

Kent Police have accredited a number of staff from Kent Highways Service under the Community Safety Accreditation Scheme. This accreditation includes powers to deal with traffic at events. A number of local authorities have staff trained under the same scheme.

Potentially, there is scope for Kent Police to offer further training opportunities to KCC staff including your Community Wardens. If you require further information regarding this please make contact with Chief Inspector Bryan Whittaker.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andy Adams', written over a circular stamp or mark.

**Andy Adams**  
**Assistant Chief Constable**  
**Central Operations**