

**Singleton, Wayne**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 20 July 2015 12:07  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Battersby, Karl; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Commissioner Enquiry - EDS/JUL15-16/091  
June 15.pdf; letter template.doc

**Importance:**

High

**Follow Up Flag:**

Follow up  
Flagged

**Hi** [REDACTED]

See attached received by Commissioner Manzie from Rob Foulds on behalf of Bramley PC.

Can you please draft a response [REDACTED] can you lead on response please as majority of letter relates to your service) for Karl's initial approval by 28<sup>th</sup> July to allow the target response date of 31<sup>st</sup> July to be met.

Can you send your draft for QA to [complaints@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:complaints@rotherham.gov.uk) in the first instance and we will arrange for it to be sent on to Karl.

Thank you

[REDACTED]  
**Service Improvement Officer**  
**Complaints Team**  
**Resources and Transformation Directorate**

**Tel:** (011709) 822157  
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**Internal from new:** 22157

**Email:** [REDACTED]  
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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 20 July 2015 10:23  
**To:** [REDACTED] Complaints  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Conduct and culture of Rotherham Council Officers

Hi [REDACTED]

Can you arrange for a draft response to this letter please to go out in Commissioner Manzie's name?

Thanks [REDACTED]

**From:** Commissioners  
**Sent:** 17 July 2015 16:09  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Manzie, Stella  
**Subject:** FW: Conduct and culture of Rotherham Council Officers

Hello [REDACTED]

Please see attached letter for the attention of Commissioner Manzie from Bramley Parish Council. I have acknowledged receipt of this and informed that currently Commissioner Manzie is away.

Regards

[REDACTED]

**From:** rob.foulds@googlemail.com [mailto:rob.foulds@googlemail.com] **On Behalf Of** Rob Foulds  
**Sent:** 17 July 2015 15:36  
**To:** Commissioners  
**Subject:** Conduct and culture of Rotherham Council Officers

Dear Sirs

Please see attached letter from Bramley Parish Council

Yours faithfully

Robert Foulds  
Clerk to the Parish Council



17 July 2015

The Commissioners  
Rotherham MBC  
Riverside House  
Main Street  
Rotherham  
S60 1QY

For the attention of Ms Manzie

*by post and email*

Dear Sirs

**Conduct and culture of Rotherham Council Officers**

At the monthly meeting of Bramley Parish Council, 12 May 2015, an item appeared on the agenda, which related to the letter issued by yourselves to all parish clerks, 05 May 2015, and entitled *An invitation from the Commissioners' Office*.

Initially the item received little enthusiasm, however there ensued a passionate informal recollection by members of the prevailing enmity between the Borough Council and the Parish Council, and how the actions of senior Borough Council management comprised a significant element thereof. Consequently and in the light of your letter, I was instructed to compile a response, conveying the local community's experiences and accumulated dissatisfaction with the conduct and culture of management at Rotherham MBC. The content of this letter was subsequently approved at the latest Parish Council meeting, 14 July 2015.

It needs to be appreciated that the aforementioned 'enmity' has its origins in two particular issues, namely the proposal to introduce an extension to the Sheffield Supertram system, which would have passed through the parish, and the infamous Bramley Traffic Management Scheme. With regard the former, that aspiration failed miserably, not least due to the exposure of irregularities and inaccuracies in the business case by campaigners; regarding the latter, the scheme was imposed upon the community in spite of overwhelming resident opposition (over 3000 signatures on the petition).

With specific regard to the culture of management then, the following examples will serve to illustrate how members of Borough Council staff are more than willing to misinform, misrepresent and deceive, in order to serve their own purposes.

1) Take for example an incident regarding the Supertram proposals, where a Borough Council officer stated that residents living within close proximity of the route had been consulted about the proposal. This was completely untrue and this 'untruth' was eventually and grudgingly acknowledged by the Borough Council, and my clear recollection was that the officer involved had to submit an apology to the committee concerned.

2) During the opposition campaign to the Bramley Traffic Management Scheme and particularly with regard to the former car parking facility in the centre of the village, which had fronted the local shops for over 40 years, officers asserted that those parking spaces were illegal and defended their decisions in removing them by quoting from the Highway Code i.e. that "it was illegal to park within 10 metres of a junction".

cont./



What the Borough Council officers conveniently omitted from their Highway Code quotation, was that parking within 10metres of a junction is indeed permissible, providing it is within "an authorised parking space". But of course, it suited the officers to misquote the Code

For the benefit of record, those former parking spaces were indisputably 'authorised', because they were a condition of the original planning approval for the parade of shops that they served.

3) More recently, the Parish Council contacted the Borough Council in relation to its desire to plant trees on the central reservation of the A631 Bawtry Road. One of the reasons Borough Council officers refused permission, was by citing a quotation from the Highways Act i.e. "trees can not be planted within 15 feet from the centre of any carriageway".

The honest and true quotation from the Act, should have been that trees cannot be planted "within 15 feet from the centre of a made-up carriageway." Note the correctly quoted term 'made-up', which of course relates only to the metalled surface of a roadway and seeing as how the central reservation of Bawtry Road is itself 27 feet wide, and the made-up carriageway is 22 feet wide, then the legal criteria was easily complied with. But of course, it suited the officer to misquote the Act.

4) In 2005, a report was compiled by a Borough Council officer in relation to a proposed residential development within the parish, which defined a specific pedestrian problem of "the difficulty with crossing Flash Lane" and thereby a recommendation of a condition on the planning approval for the development, as "requiring the installation of a pedestrian crossing" and continues "For information, I do not envisage a crossing costing more than £10,000, say £7,000 for a zebra crossing, £1,000 for installing a road hump and up to £2,000 to overcome any drainage issues."

Thereafter a Section 106 Agreement was drawn up with the developer, which included a pedestrian crossing contribution of £10,000 to be made to the Borough Council, prior to commencement of works on site.

The sum was duly paid by the developer as required, however not until approximately five years later and considerable acrimony between the local community and the Borough Council, and its officers reneging on their initial stated 'requirement', was a simple dropped kerb facility grudgingly instated at the aforementioned location. So, contrary to the Borough Council's own observations and advice, there is no zebra crossing on a road where children cross to the adjacent playground and where they also cross to go to school, and along which officers had adjudged the need for speed control humps.

5) Let me now describe a situation where officers authorised the removal of a dog waste receptacle from the frontage of the recreation ground in Bramley, which was actioned in a fit of pique after their quotation for grass cutting on the recreation ground was rejected by the Parish Council (the fee quoted was approximately three times that of the accepted quotation from a private operator).

In response to local residents' complaints about the removal of the dog waste receptacle, officers advised that the Parish Council was to blame because it had opted out of an agreement to empty the excrement bins, yet when challenged to provide documentary evidence to support their claim, Borough Council officers could not produce any.

The story does not however end there, because last year Borough Council workmen were observed removing yet another dog excrement bin within the parish and when asked why they were doing so, the workmen explained that it was "something to do with the Parish Council" - they were unaware that they were in fact being addressed by a parish councillor. They then reinstated the receptacle at the front of a resident's home, which is located 170metres from the entrance to the above mentioned recreation ground and where very few residents are seen to walk their dogs.



Consequently, I wrote an email to Karl Battersby advising him emphatically that his staff's actions did not have anything "to do with the Parish Council" and that he was completely undermining the wishes of the Borough Council's Ward Councillors for the area, who had previously advocated reinstatement of the bin at the frontage to the recreation ground.

Mr Battersby thereafter issued instructions for the bin to be transferred to the frontage of the recreation ground.

6) During the Bramley Traffic Management campaign, a local shopkeeper, Alan Tyler, submitted a formal complaint about a statement made by a senior member of Borough Council staff i.e. the former Director of Economic and Development Services, whereby he had admitted that prior to the design and implementation of the Traffic Management Scheme by his own staff, they had never considered what its impact would be upon the businesses in Bramley village.

This 'failure to consider' was of course contrary to the Borough Council's own Unitary Development Plan, which is why Mr Tyler brought the complaint.

Predictably, the Executive Director vehemently denied the allegation, however Mr Tyler produced a letter, which was signed by the local shopkeepers who were present at the meeting when the statement had been made and all clearly remembered it.

The complaint was 'investigated' by another senior member of staff and only when the above letter was produced, was the claim upheld.

This then led to the bizarre explanation by the Borough Council's Chief Executive regarding a letter sent by his Executive Director, which included and subsequently spawned the local off-repeated and belittling phrase "he checked it, but he didn't check it thoroughly enough".

7) Lastly, but by no means least, and again relating to the issue of the Bramley Traffic Scheme, when officers issued their plans of the scheme, their illustrated pamphlet displayed trees, landscape features, public benches and decorative paving, none of which was instated during the scheme's implementation. Indeed the scheme was thereafter referred to as the 'Tarmac Tundra'.

Very recently, Parish Cllr Dennis Hardwick has been advised by Ward Cllr Read, that there is no funding available to carry out environmental improvements to the centre of Bramley. However, by way of contradiction, I would advise you that a budget of £60,000 for environmental improvements to the scheme was approved, 30th March 2009, and yet to-date, not one penny of that budget has been spent on improving the state of affairs in the village.

Consequent to all of the above then, just how much credibility do you think the Parish Council and local residents attribute to the advice given to our Ward Councillor, Sue Ellis, when, last year, she was assured by Borough Council officers, that the junction at Bawtry Road/Flash Lane is safe and requires no improvements - really? in spite of several serious accidents at the location?

In conclusion then I would advise you that anything issued by Rotherham Council relating to the parish, is always treated with considerable suspicion and rarely accorded any credence. The clear message from Bramley Parish Council to 'The Commissioners therefore, is that the culture and conduct of management at Rotherham Borough Council, needs to be radically changed.

Yours faithfully

Robert Foulds  
Clerk to the Parish Council



**Singleton, Wayne**

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**From:** Battersby, Karl  
**Sent:** 31 July 2015 16:47  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Commissioner Enquiry - EDS/JUL15-16/091  
**Attachments:** Bramley Traffic Management Scheme.docx; Bramley Crossroads Ward Member Briefing Note\_01\_12\_14.doc; RE: Commissioner Enquiry - EDS/JUL15-16/091

Not sure if you have seen this.

**Karl Battersby**  
**Strategic Director**  
**Environment & Development Services**  
**Tel. No. (82) 23815**  
**Ext. 223815**  
**Email: [karl.battersby@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:karl.battersby@rotherham.gov.uk)**

**Riverside House**  
**Main Street**  
**Rotherham**  
**S60 1AE**

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 July 2015 17:58  
**To:** Battersby, Karl  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Commissioner Enquiry - EDS/JUL15-16/091

Karl and [REDACTED]  
Please find the draft reply to Bramley Parish Council below. This is along the lines discussed.

Also attached are background papers, for Commissioner Manzie and NOT for including in the reply, which include:

- Briefing on the Bramley Traffic Management Scheme (light touch)
- Briefing on the recent Bramley Crossroads enquiry by Ward Members
- Email on the Dog Waste bin issue

There is clearly significant background to the traffic management scheme which the briefing cannot cover in its entirety and if Cmmr Manzie would like to know more on this I'm happy to brief her on the history.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Dear Mr Foulds

Thank you for your letter dated 17 July 2015.

As you are aware Commissioners are keen to work closely with the Council's key stakeholders and Parish Councils are a very important element in this.

Within your letter you have expressed the Parish Council's view on where it's expectations, in relation to the performance and involvement of the Council with regard to a number of issues, over a number of years, does not meet the standards that the Parish Council expects. Whilst I am aware of some of the history in relation to certain projects in the Bramley area I can assure you that Commissioners have clearly expressed their expectations in the standards that need to be met by Elected Members and Officers of the Council.



The way in which Council Officers deal with Elected Members, Parish Councils residents, businesses, and all groups or individuals in the borough must be professional and responsible at all times. And it should be stated that many Rotherham MBC officers are acting in this regard. However, even when acting in a professional and responsible manner this does not mean that any individual or group will necessarily agree with all of the messages being conveyed. Providing our evidence and rationale is robust and clear we will clearly not be able to satisfy everyone's requests.

The Council has set out how it will seek to change and move forward within the Improvements Plan that was published earlier this year in May. The Improvement Plan captures all of the key actions that we will need to undertake to ensure that Rotherham is a fit for purpose authority and the need for Government intervention is no longer required. The Improvement Plan can be found on the Councils website. I am sure that in delivering the plan that across the Council our professional officers will become more effective and deliver excellent services, within a more positive and open culture.

Yours sincerely  
Commissioner Stella Manzie

[REDACTED]  
**Transportation and Highways Projects Manager**

**Streetpride  
Environment and Development Services  
Rotherham MBC**

Tel: 01709 822 967

email [REDACTED]

[www.rotherham.gov.uk/transportation](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/transportation)

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**From:** Battersby, Karl  
**Sent:** 24 July 2015 13:51  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Commissioner Enquiry - EDS/JUL15-16/091

I think a briefing note for Comm Manzie, and a response as you suggest which doesn't seek to defend the decisions made.

Regards

**Karl Battersby  
Strategic Director  
Environment & Development Services  
Tel. No. (82) 23815  
Ext. 223815  
Email: [karl.battersby@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:karl.battersby@rotherham.gov.uk)**

**Riverside House  
Main Street  
Rotherham  
S60 1AE**

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 21 July 2015 15:48  
**To:** Battersby, Karl; [REDACTED]



**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Commissioner Enquiry - EDS/JUL15-16/091  
**Importance:** High

Karl

Whilst I haven't seen the letter that all Parish Council's received that Rob Foulds refers to in this letter (titled 'An invitation from the Commissioners Office') I expect that it was a 'wish to work closely together' type invitation and not a 'if there are issues that you want us to consider that you aren't happy with let us know' type of letter. The letter from Rob Foulds brings up nearly every issue in recent history where they feel that we have acted inappropriately and where this has led to the Parish Council feeling aggrieved at the outcome. Whilst we can draft a detailed response to each of the 7 issues they have raised I feel that the response may be better drafted for Cmmr Manzie on the basis that she is aware of some of the history in relation to certain projects in the Bramley area and that Commissioners have clearly expressed their expectations in the way officers deal with all Parish Councils, Elected Members, residents and businesses in the borough. However, this does not mean that those groups will necessarily agree with the messages being conveyed. Do you agree or would you like the full detailed rebuttal version?

Thanks

[REDACTED]

**Transportation and Highways Projects Manager**

**Streetpride  
Environment and Development Services  
Rotherham MBC**

**Tel:** 01709 822 967

**email:** [tom.finnegan-smith@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:tom.finnegan-smith@rotherham.gov.uk)

[www.rotherham.gov.uk/transportation](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/transportation)

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[REDACTED]

**Service Improvement Officer  
Complaints Team  
Resources and Transformation Directorate**



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Internal from old: 7422157  
Internal from new: 22157

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

**From:** [rob.foulds@googlemail.com](mailto:rob.foulds@googlemail.com) [mailto:[rob.foulds@googlemail.com](mailto:rob.foulds@googlemail.com)] **On Behalf Of** Rob Foulds  
**Sent:** 17 July 2015 15:36  
**To:** Commissioners  
**Subject:** Conduct and culture of Rotherham Council Officers

Dear Sirs

Please see attached letter from Bramley Parish Council

Yours faithfully

Robert Foulds  
Clerk to the Parish Council



## **Bramley Traffic Management Scheme**

The Bramley Traffic Management scheme was introduced in late 2005 to address the increases in traffic, primarily though not exclusively from the Woodlathes housing development to the west of Bramley and to address local concerns regarding the narrowness of footways.

The main elements of the scheme include changing the two way flow of traffic along Main Street and Church Lane to one way, changes to parking restrictions, widened footways and a contraflow cycle lane.

After completion a number of complaints were raised from local residents, and the council decided to conduct a community and business opinion survey in 2007. Over three quarters of residents and four fifths of businesses responding to the consultation were dissatisfied with the scheme, with many indicating there should be a return to two way traffic on Main Street or the whole scheme should be removed.

Following this and the receipt of a consultant's report, which undertook a highways network operational review of the project, a number of amendments to the traffic management scheme were proposed to improve the operation of the scheme. This was reported to the former Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development in late 2007. The proposals did not include changing the one way system to two way.

Continued complaints from Bramley Parish Council, Ward Councillors and local residents were received in 2008. Further investigations were therefore undertaken and it was agreed that two options would be consulted upon to further amend the Bramley Traffic Management Scheme including:

1. Retaining the one way system with the removal of the contraflow cycle lane, amendments to parking and environmental improvements.
2. Reintroducing two way flow to Main Street with the left turn from Cross Street onto Main Street prohibited.

Consultation on the two options was undertaken with local residents in the form of a two day public consultation event in late 2008. The results were reported to the former Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development and there was an overwhelming support from those responding to the consultation to return the road to two-way. After consideration of the results the former Cabinet Member decided that option one should be implemented with some further amendments, though the contra flow cycle lane should be retained. The estimated cost of the scheme was £220,000.

However shortly following the decision the government significantly reduced the amount of local transport funding available to local authorities. All schemes in Rotherham's local transport programme were therefore prioritised based upon their contribution towards the aims and objectives of the Local Transport Plan. As a result other transport schemes became a higher priority and monies were not available to introduce the proposed traffic management changes in Bramley.

Bramley Parish Council was informed of this at a meeting with Council officers and in subsequent years local transport funding has continued to decline and is now significantly lower than in 2008, therefore the proposed amendments were not implemented. In recent years other monies, in addition to Local Transport Plan funding, have been won through bidding processes such as bids to the Local Sustainable Transport Fund. However, these bids are in response to specific criteria and guidelines for transport schemes in Rotherham and further amendments to the Bramley Traffic Management scheme would not fall within the criteria or priorities for these bids.



## **Ward Member and Parish Council Briefing Note**

### **Bramley Crossroads – July 2014**

#### **Introduction**

In July this year Bramley Parish Council and local Ward Members expressed concerns about road safety at Bramley crossroads as a result of a number of recent collisions and the operation of the traffic signals at the junction. An investigation has subsequently been undertaken into collisions and the operation of the traffic signals. This briefing note gives the results of these investigations.

#### **Collision analysis**

Collisions occurring at the crossroads in the 3 years up to the end of July 2014 have been investigated . During this period there were seven recorded collisions involving personal injury within 50 metres of the junction, 6 of which involved slight injury and 1 serious injury, most of which had different causations and factors involved. The investigation involved looking at the month, day of the week and time that collisions occurred as well as the number of collisions that happened in the light/dark, by road surface condition, and by type of collision to see if any patterns existed. The report is attached as Appendix A.

The investigation concluded that in view of the lack of a dominant type and treatable pattern to the collisions it is not considered practical or cost effective to implement any road safety remedial measures.

#### **Operation of the traffic signals**

The concerns surrounding the traffic signals have arisen because both the Flash Lane and Cross Street arms of the junction operate at the same time. This creates potential conflicts between traffic turning right out of Cross Street and vehicles turning both left and right out of Flash Lane. However, it should be noted that none of the 7 collisions mentioned above happened as a result of conflict between these movements.

The investigation looked at separating the operation of the side roads to remove this conflict. Due to the strategic nature of the route, and it being a key bus route, it would not be acceptable to induce significant delays for traffic using the A631, therefore any changes to the junction operation would be focused on amending the green times for the side roads. The junction was modelled with the inclusion of an additional stage to replicate how the junction would perform with the egress from Cross Street and Flash Lane operating separately. This found that on Cross Street in the morning peak period average queue lengths increased from 5 to 115 car lengths and in the evening peak from 7 to 48 car lengths. The figures for Flash Lane are an average increase from 17 to 128 car lengths in the morning and 16 to 43 car lengths in the evening. This clearly demonstrates that if the proposal was taken forward,



significant queues and delays would develop throughout Bramley Village and on Flash Lane.

In view of these increases it is not considered practical or desirable to separate the operation of the side roads, and there is no evidence to demonstrate that the current method of operation contributes to any collision or accident problem at the junction.



## Appendix A

### Bramley Crossroads Collision Study

#### Analysis of available data

##### Data Available for Investigation:

Collision data for the period 01 August 2011 to 31 July 2014 was extracted from Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Councils' Collision database. This database uses data supplied by South Yorkshire Police and shows that during this period there were 7 collisions, 6 involving slight injury and 1 involving serious injury.

There are three levels of severity used to record the personal injury occurring as a result of a collision. These are:

- Fatal: - A casualty has been declared deceased at the scene of the collision or died within 30 days as a result of the injuries sustained.
- Serious: - A casualty has sustained broken bones and / or serious internal complications as a result of the collision. (A person who has died more than 30 days from the date of the collision may also be classified as a serious casualty for the purpose of these records).
- Slight: - A casualty who has no broken bones or severe internal complications but has required medical attention from their injuries sustained as a result of the collision.

Traffic flow data shows that during a typical weekday the 2 way 12 hour flow between 7am and 7pm is approximately 21,000 vehicles.



## General

From information contained within the collision reports from South Yorkshire Police the most common type of collision involves shunts. The location of the collisions and their type is shown in figure 1 below, with green triangles representing collisions involving slight injuries and blue circles serious injuries.

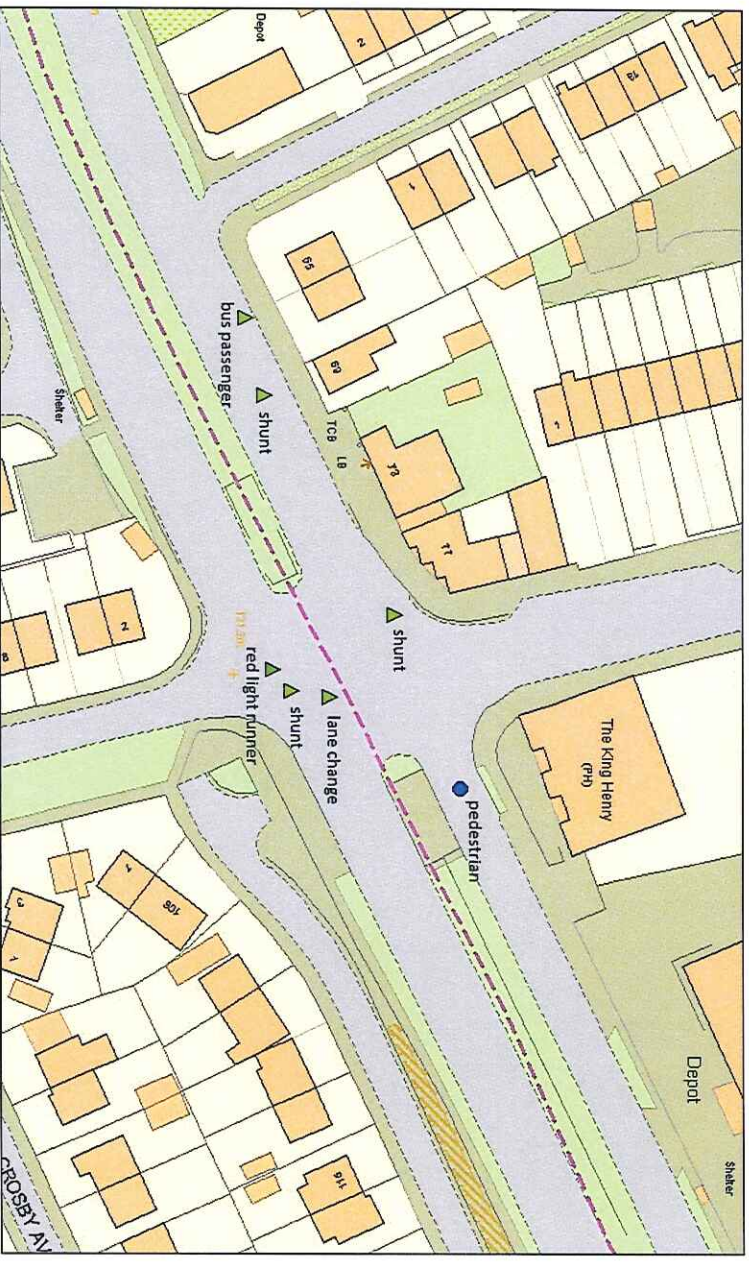


Figure 1 – Location and type of collisions



## Collision Severity Analysis

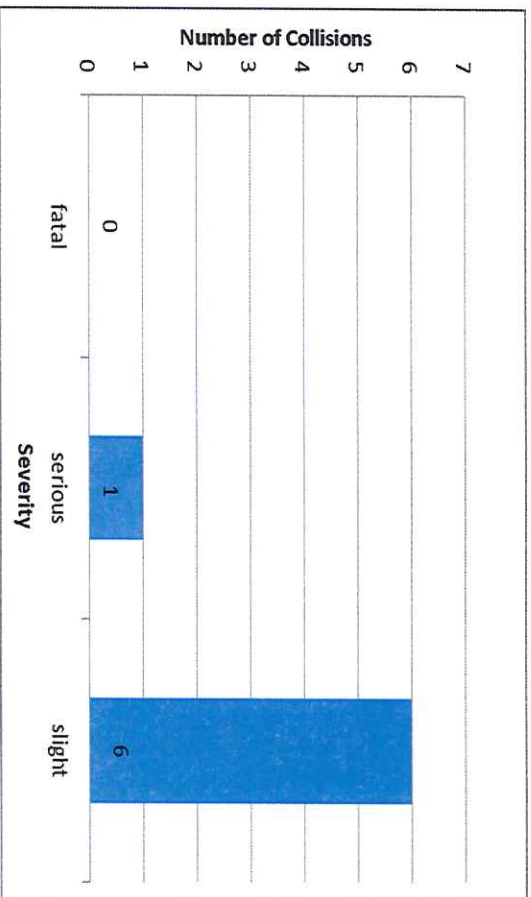


Figure 2 – Collision severity

Figure 2 above shows the severity of the collisions recorded at the junction.

There were:

- No fatal accidents occurring during the 3 year study period.
- 1 collision resulting in persons seriously injured.
- 6 collisions resulting in persons slightly injured.

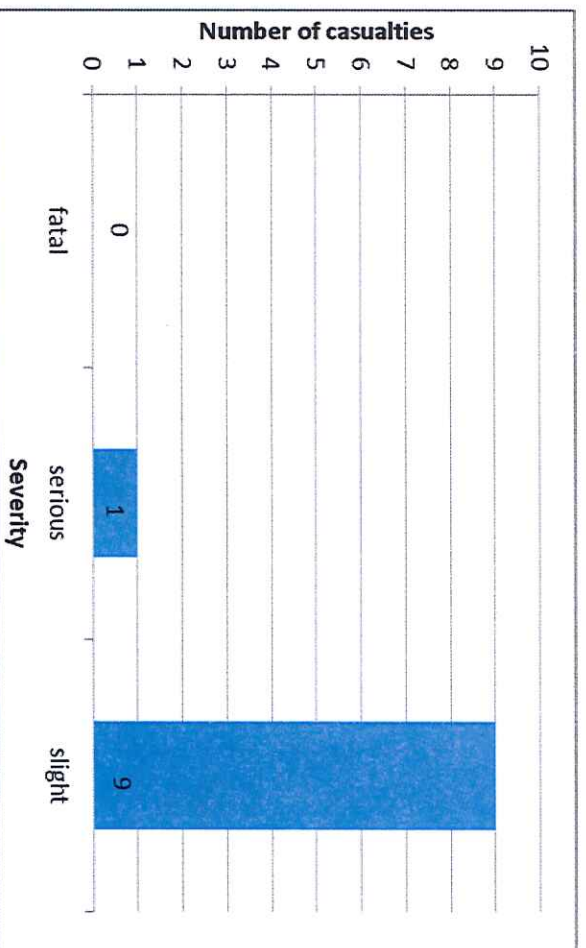


Figure 3 – Casualty severity



Figure 3 shows the number of casualties involved in the recorded collisions by their severity rating. 1 casualty received serious injury from a total of 7 collisions.

The serious injury was sustained by a pedestrian crossing against the red man on the crossing outside The King Henry PH and being struck by a vehicle turning right out of Flash Lane.

Table RAS10002 'Reported accidents and accident rates by road class and severity, Great Britain 2005-09 average' in Road Collisions Great Britain 2012, suggests that collisions involving fatal and serious injuries can be expected to make up 13% of the total. In this case they make up 14% of the total which is broadly in line with national figures.

### Month of Collisions Occurrences

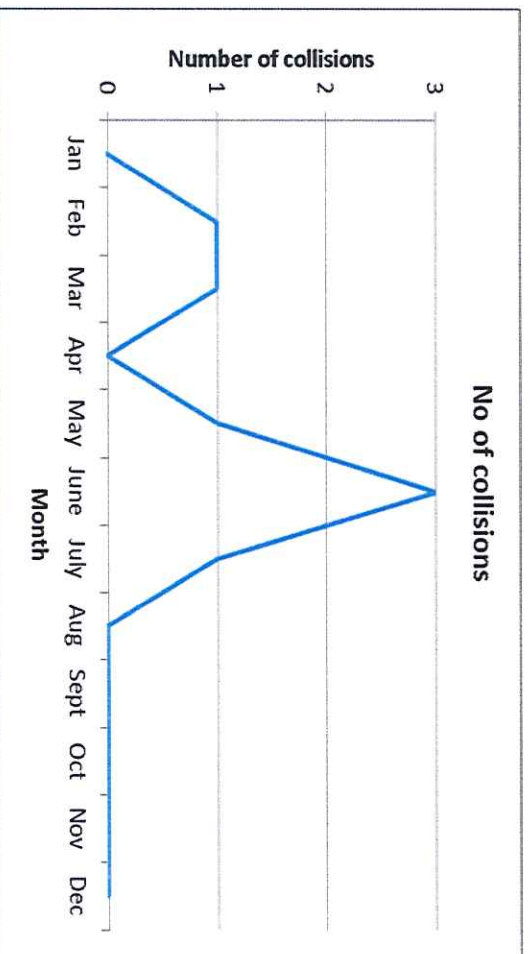


Figure 4 – Months collisions occurred

Figure 4 above shows the number of collisions occurring within each month of the year for the three year period of the study. The results do not show any particular trend throughout the year although there is a peak in June.



## Day of Collision Occurrence

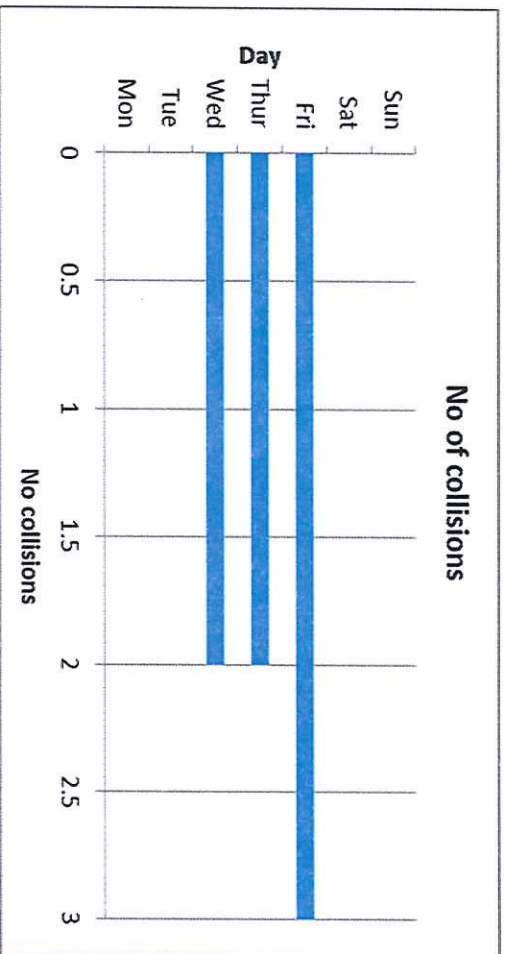


Figure 5 – Days of week collisions occurred

Figure 5 shows the days of the week on which the collisions investigated within this study occurred.

The average was 1 collision per day of the week over the three year period. Again the results do not show any particular trend although all collisions occurred during Wednesday to Friday with Friday having the most collisions at 3 compared to 2 on Wednesday and Thursday. A possible reason for this could be that more people carry out their weekly shop at the nearby supermarket on these days, which roughly correlates with older drivers being involved in collisions during off-peak hours (see below).

## Time of Collision Occurrence

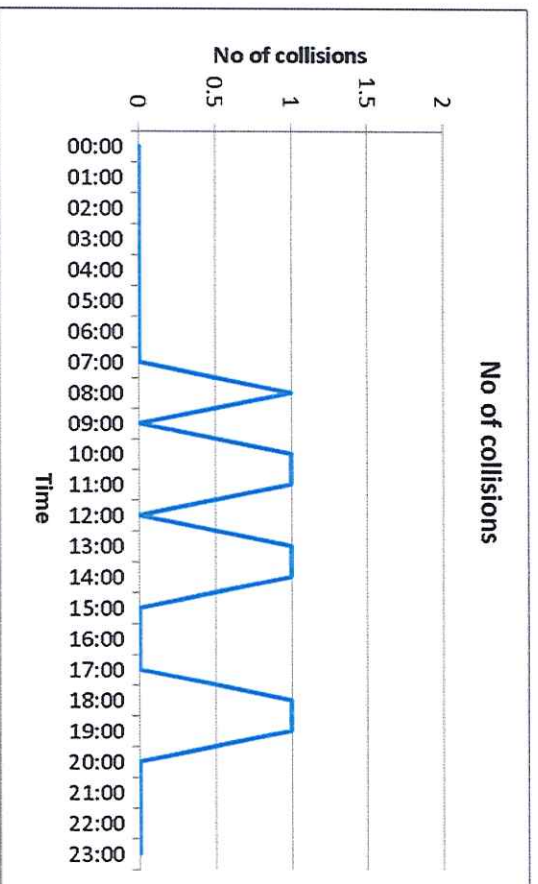


Figure 6 – Time of day collisions occurred

Figure 6 shows the hour of the day on which the collisions occurred.

With the exception of the two collisions that occurred at 8am and 6pm all the other collisions took place during off peak hours of the day, when it would perhaps be expected, given the volume of traffic using the junction, that the majority of collisions would occur in peak hours.

## Light Conditions at Time of Collisions

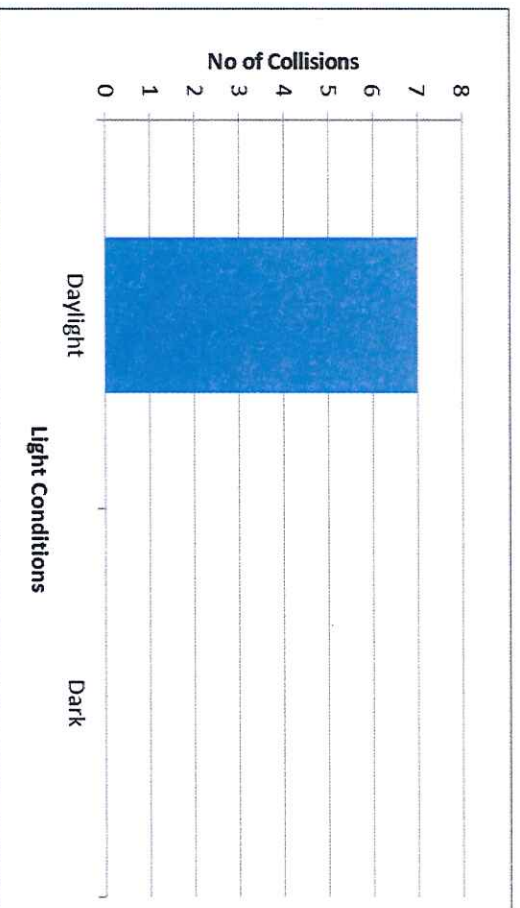


Figure 7 – Light conditions



Figure 7 above shows that there were 7 collisions recorded during daylight hours with none recorded during hours of darkness. Table RAS10005 'Reported accidents by daylight and darkness, road surface condition, built-up and non built-up roads and severity', in Road Collisions Great Britain 2012, indicates that 27% of collisions can be expected to occur during the hours of darkness on built up roads. The actual number is less than this which indicates there is not a problem with collisions occurring during the hours of darkness.

### Road Surface / Weather Conditions at Time of Collisions

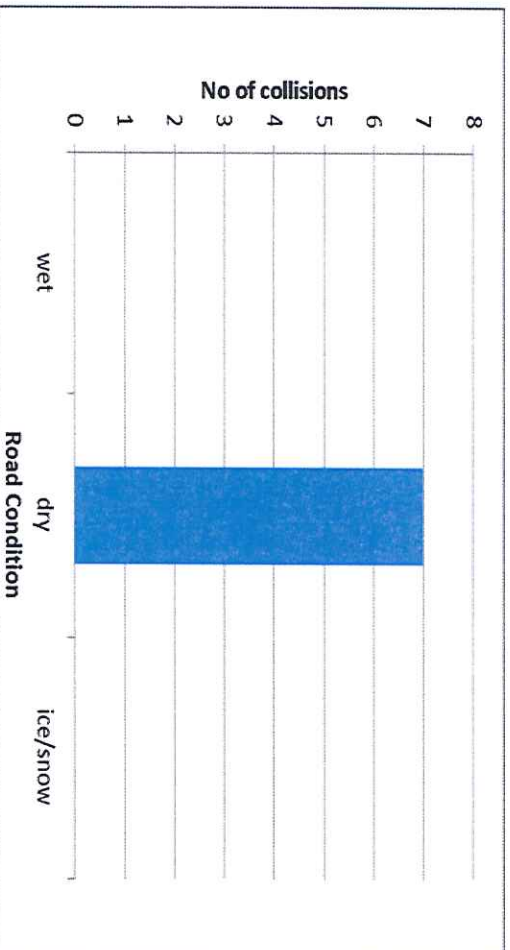


Figure 8 – Collisions by road surface condition

Figure 8 above shows that all 7 collisions occurred when the carriageway was dry. Table RAS10005 'Reported accidents by daylight and darkness, road surface condition, built-up and non built-up roads and severity', in Road Collisions Great Britain 2012, indicates that 28% of collisions can be expected to occur on built up roads when the road surface is wet. The actual number is less than this which indicates there is not a problem with collisions occurring when the road surface is wet.

## Collision Type

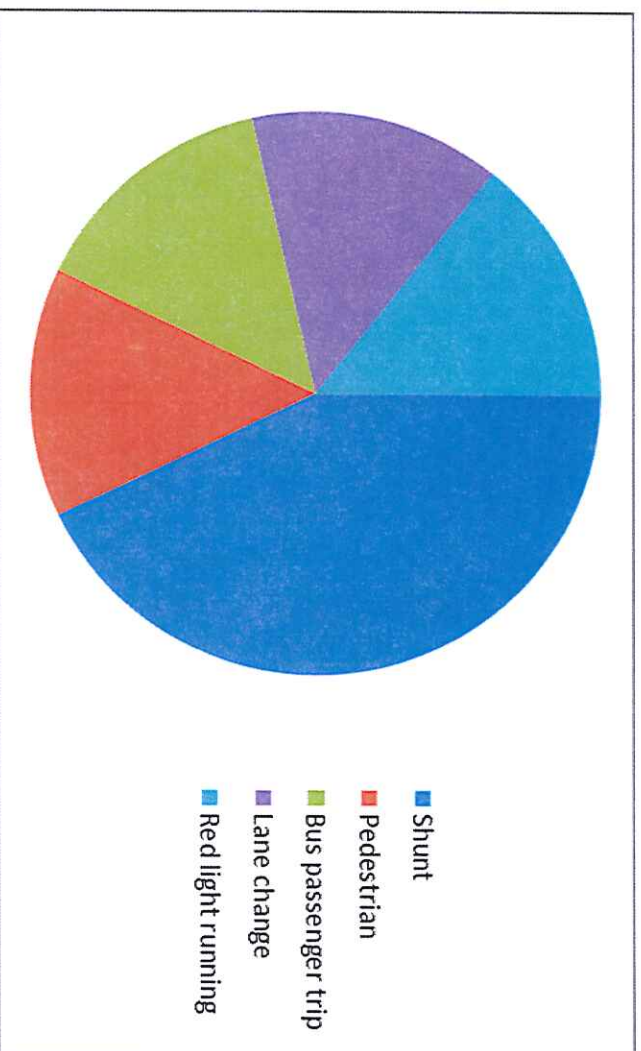


Figure 9 – Breakdown of collisions

Figure 9 above shows that shunts were the most common collision type which occurred within the study area, with 2 of them occurring on the Bawtry Road eastbound approach and 1 on the Bawtry Road westbound approach to the crossroads. The other 4 collisions all had different causes.

### Analysis of Injured Pedestrians

There was 1 recorded pedestrian collision involving a vehicle turning right from Flash Lane. The pedestrian, who was 8 years old, ran into the road from the central reservation at the crossing outside the King Henry PH against the red man. Given the time of the collision and their age it is likely the pedestrian was on the way to school.



## Analysis of Traffic Flow Data

A recent traffic survey carried out in 2012 shows that over a twelve hour period between 7am and 7pm the two way traffic flow along the A631 was approximately 21000 vehicles.

## Analysis of Driver Particulars

The age of drivers involved in collisions ranges from 17 to 71 with just over half of them in the 40s and 50s age ranges which would potentially correlate with the age group that would use this route to commute. Just over 70 % of the drivers were male.

Further investigation into the origins of the drivers involved indicates that half of them live within approximately 5 miles of the immediate locality with the remainder coming from Sheffield and Doncaster.

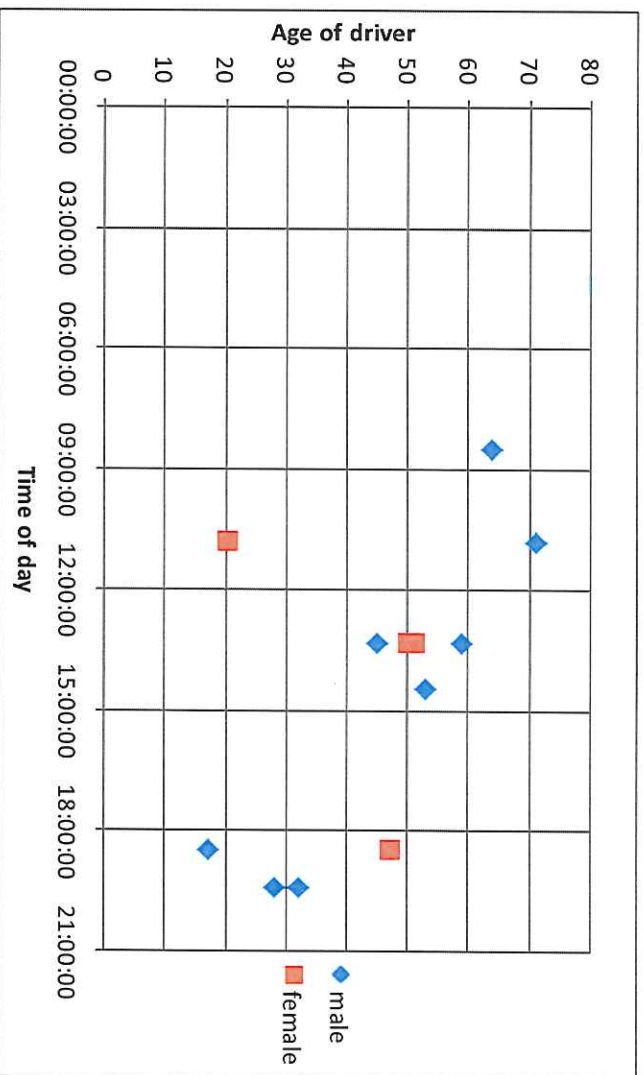


Figure 10 – Age of driver V time of collision

The above scatter graph shows the age and sex of the drivers involved in the collisions plotted against the time the collision took place.

The graph shows that older drivers tend to be involved in collisions during off peak hours with younger drivers having collisions during the evening, which is broadly in line with what would be expected.

### **On Site Observations**

From observations on site there are no obvious defects with the highway. Indeed, Bawtry Road has recently been resurfaced on the westbound approach to the crossroads. Both the east and west bound Bawtry Road approaches to the crossroads have high friction surfacing in advance of the stop lines which appears to be in a good state of repair . Controlled pedestrian crossing facilities exist across both Bawtry Road arms of the junction with associated pedestrian guard railing to guide pedestrians to use these facilities to cross the road.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

In view of the lack of a dominant type and treatable pattern to the collisions, as outlined above in terms of day of the week, time of day, road surface conditions, collisions during the hours of darkness, and drivers involved, it is not considered practical or cost effective to implement any remedial measures.



Singleton, Wayne

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 27 July 2015 17:12  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Burton, David; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Commissioner Enquiry - EDS/JUL15-16/091

[REDACTED]

Not sure what you need now. I am on leave from 30<sup>th</sup> July to 7<sup>th</sup> Aug so below is the response I had drafted and [REDACTED] may be able to help if you need something different.

The Council's Streetpride Service wrote to Bramley Parish Council on several occasions requesting the opportunity to discuss a change in policy relating to the need to make budget savings, which meant that we would need to charge for the provision of grounds maintenance and street cleansing services on Parish Council owned land. Unfortunately Bramley PC chose not to meet with officers and whilst Streetpride still provided a schedule that detailed the items of work and their related costs, the Parish Council decided not to engage their services. Where officers had the opportunity to meet with Parish Councils they were able to discuss all aspects of the schedule including confirmation that the litter removal works also included emptying of bins. Furthermore the Leader of the Council at that time also offered a subsidy to all Parish Councils to assist with the first years transition which equated to a saving of approximately 54% per Parish Council.

Once the emptying of dog waste bins and litter bins on Bramley PC land at Flash Lane Recreation Ground ceased a request was received from the Chair of Bramley PC stating that if the Council were not able to continue to empty the dog waste bins on Parish Council land without a cost to the PC then they should be removed. The bins were therefore removed as requested. Officers did meet with the Chair and Vice Chair of Bramley PC at a later date and offered to reinstate the dog waste bins if Bramley PC were able to pay for them to be emptied but the PC decided they did not want to reinstate the dog waste bins on their land and did not wish to enter into a contract with Streetpride to empty litter bins or litter pick any of their site.

Streetpride committed to monitor the number of requests from local residents to remove dog waste from the adopted highway and to consider installing a dog waste bin on RMBG land if the level of contacts suggested this was necessary. At a later date and at the request of the Council Leader a dog bin was installed on Flash Lane and included on Streetpride's schedule for emptying but in order to facilitate this and avoid additional costs a relatively under used bin was removed from another area. Initially the bin was mistakenly installed in the wrong position and was subsequently repositioned next to the entrance to the recreation ground

Cheers

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Leisure & Community Services Manager,  
Environment and Development Services,  
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council,  
Riverside House, Main Street, Rotherham, S60 1AE





*The Green Organisation has been established since 1994 as an international, independent, non-profit, non-political, non-activist environment group, dedicated to recognising, rewarding and promoting environmental best practice around the world.*

**Tel: 01709 822483**

**Internal from old: 7422483**  
**Internal from new: 22483**

**Fax: 01709 823865**

**E-mail:** [REDACTED]

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---

**From:** Battersby, Karl  
**Sent:** 24 July 2015, 13:51  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Commissioner Enquiry - EDS/JUL15-16/091

I think a briefing note for Comm Manzie, and a response as you suggest which doesn't seek to defend the decisions made.

Regards

**Karl Battersby**  
**Strategic Director**  
**Environment & Development Services**  
**Tel. No. (82) 23815**  
**Ext. 223815**  
**Email: [karl.battersby@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:karl.battersby@rotherham.gov.uk)**

**Riverside House**  
**Main Street**  
**Rotherham**  
**S60 1AE**

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 21 July 2015, 15:48  
**To:** Battersby, Karl,  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Commissioner Enquiry - EDS/JUL15-16/091  
**Importance:** High

Karl

Whilst I haven't seen the letter that all Parish Council's received that Rob Foulds refers to in this letter (titled 'An invitation from the Commissioners Office') I expect that it was a 'wish to work closely together' type invitation and not a 'if there are issues that you want us to consider that you aren't happy with let us know' type of letter.

The letter from Rob Foulds brings up nearly every issue in recent history where they feel that we have acted inappropriately and where this has led to the Parish Council feeling aggrieved at the outcome.

Whilst we can draft a detailed response to each of the 7 issues they have raised I feel that the response may be better drafted for Cmmr Manzie on the basis that she is aware of some of the history in relation to certain projects in the Bramley area and that Commissioners have clearly expressed their expectations in the way officers deal with all Parish Councils, Elected Members, residents and businesses in the borough. However, this does not mean that those groups will necessarily agree with the messages being conveyed.



Do you agree or would you like the full detailed rebuttal version?

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Transportation and Highways Projects Manager

Streetpride  
Environment and Development Services  
Rotherham MBC

Tel: 01709 822 967

email [REDACTED]

[www.rotherham.gov.uk/transportation](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/transportation)

Think before you print - please consider the impact on the environment before printing this document.

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 20 July 2015 12:07

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Battersby, Karl; [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Commissioner Enquiry - EDS/JUL15-16/091

**Importance:** High

Hi [REDACTED]

See attached received by Commissioner Manzie from Rob Foulds on behalf of Bramley PC.

Can you please draft a response ([REDACTED] can you lead on response please as majority of letter relates to your service) for Karl's initial approval by 28<sup>th</sup> July to allow the target response date of 31<sup>st</sup> July to be met.

Can you send your draft for QA to [complaints@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:complaints@rotherham.gov.uk) in the first instance and we will arrange for it to be sent on to Karl.

Thank you

[REDACTED]

Service Improvement Officer  
Complaints Team  
Resources and Transformation Directorate

Tel: (01709) 822157

Internal from old: 7422157

Internal from new: 22157

Email: [REDACTED]

Visit our website: <http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/complaints>

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**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 20 July 2015 10:23

**To:** [REDACTED] Complaints

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** FW: Conduct and culture of Rotherham Council Officers

Hi [REDACTED]

Can you arrange for a draft response to this letter please to go out in Commissioner Manzie's name?

Thanks  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Commissioners  
**Sent:** 17 July 2015 16:09  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Manzie, Stella  
**Subject:** FW: Conduct and culture of Rotherham Council Officers

Hello [REDACTED]

Please see attached letter for the attention of Commissioner Manzie from Bramley Parish Council. I have acknowledged receipt of this and informed that currently Commissioner Manzie is away.

Regards

[REDACTED]

**From:** rob.foulds@googlemail.com [mailto:rob.foulds@googlemail.com] **On Behalf Of** Rob Foulds  
**Sent:** 17 July 2015 15:36  
**To:** Commissioners  
**Subject:** Conduct and culture of Rotherham Council Officers

Dear Sirs

Please see attached letter from Bramley Parish Council

Yours faithfully

Robert Foulds  
Clerk to the Parish Council



**Singleton, Wayne**

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 03 August 2015 15:45  
**To:** Burton, David  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Commissioner Enquiry - EDS/JUL15-16/091  
**Attachments:** Letter to Mr Foulds Bramley PC re conduct and culture of Rotherham Council  
Officers 04082015.doc; June 15.pdf

David

I know you are busy, but would you mind looking at this draft response please? I've amended it slightly but I'm still not happy with it.

Thanks

[REDACTED]  
**From:** Battersby, Karl  
**Sent:** 31 July 2015 16:47  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Commissioner Enquiry - EDS/JUL15-16/091

Not sure if you have seen this.

**Karl Battersby**  
**Strategic Director**  
**Environment & Development Services**  
**Tel. No. (82) 23815**  
**Ext. 223815**  
**Email: [karl.battersby@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:karl.battersby@rotherham.gov.uk)**

**Riverside House**  
**Main Street**  
**Rotherham**  
**S60 1AE**

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 29 July 2015 17:58  
**To:** Battersby, Karl; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Commissioner Enquiry - EDS/JUL15-16/091

Karl [REDACTED]  
Please find the draft reply to Bramley Parish Council below. This is along the lines discussed.

Also attached are background papers, for Commissioner Manzie and NOT for including in the reply, which include:

- Briefing on the Bramley Traffic Management Scheme (light touch)
- Briefing on the recent Bramley Crossroads enquiry by Ward Members
- Email on the Dog Waste bin issue

There is clearly significant background to the traffic management scheme which the briefing cannot cover in its entirety and if Cmmr Manzie would like to know more on this I'm happy to brief her on the history.

Regards



---

Dear Mr Foulds

Thank you for your letter dated 17 July 2015.

As you are aware Commissioners are keen to work closely with the Council's key stakeholders and Parish Councils are a very important element in this.

Within your letter you have expressed the Parish Council's view on where it's expectations, in relation to the performance and involvement of the Council with regard to a number of issues, over a number of years, does not meet the standards that the Parish Council expects. Whilst I am aware of some of the history in relation to certain projects in the Bramley area I can assure you that Commissioners have clearly expressed their expectations in the standards that need to be met by Elected Members and Officers of the Council.

The way in which Council Officers deal with Elected Members, Parish Councils residents, businesses, and all groups or individuals in the borough must be professional and responsible at all times. And it should be stated that many Rotherham MBC officers are acting in this regard. However, even when acting in a professional and responsible manner this does not mean that any individual or group will necessarily agree with all of the messages being conveyed. Providing our evidence and rationale is robust and clear we will clearly not be able to satisfy everyone's requests.

The Council has set out how it will seek to change and move forward within the Improvements Plan that was published earlier this year in May. The Improvement Plan captures all of the key actions that we will need to undertake to ensure that Rotherham is a fit for purpose authority and the need for Government intervention is no longer required. The Improvement Plan can be found on the Council's website. I am sure that in delivering the plan that across the Council our professional officers will become more effective and deliver excellent services, within a more positive and open culture.

Yours sincerely  
Commissioner Stella Manzie

[REDACTED]  
**Transportation and Highways Projects Manager**

**Streetpride  
Environment and Development Services  
Rotherham MBC**

Tel: 01709 822 967

email [REDACTED]

[www.rotherham.gov.uk/transportation](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/transportation)

Think before you print - please consider the impact on the environment before printing this document.

**From:** Battersby, Karl  
**Sent:** 24 July 2015 13:51  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Commissioner Enquiry - EDS/JUL15-16/091

I think a briefing note for Comm Manzie, and a response as you suggest which doesn't seek to defend the decisions made.

Regards

**Karl Battersby**



**Strategic Director**  
**Environment & Development Services**  
**Tel. No. (82) 23815**  
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**Riverside House**  
**Main Street**  
**Rotherham**  
**S60 1AE**

---

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**Sent:** 21 July 2015 15:48  
**To:** Battersby, [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Commissioner Enquiry - EDS/JUL15-16/091  
**Importance:** High

Karl

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Do you agree or would you like the full detailed rebuttal version?

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
**Transportation and Highways Projects Manager**

**Streetpride**  
**Environment and Development Services**  
**Rotherham MBC**

**Tel:** 01709 822 967

**email** [REDACTED]

[www.rotherham.gov.uk/transportation](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/transportation)

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---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 20 July 2015 12:07  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Battersby, Karl; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Commissioner Enquiry - EDS/JUL15-16/091  
**Importance:** High

Hi [REDACTED]

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Can you please draft a response [redacted] can you lead on response please as majority of letter relates to your service) for Karl's initial approval by 28<sup>th</sup> July to allow the target response date of 31<sup>st</sup> July to be met.

Can you send your draft for QA to [complaints@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:complaints@rotherham.gov.uk) in the first instance and we will arrange for it to be sent on to Karl.

Thank you

[redacted]  
**Service Improvement Officer**  
**Complaints Team**  
**Resources and Transformation Directorate**

**Tel:** (01709) 822157  
**Internal from old:** 7422157  
**Internal from new:** 22157

**Email:** [redacted]  
**Visit our website:** <http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/complaints>

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---

**From:** [redacted]  
**Sent:** 20 July 2015 10:23  
**To:** [redacted] Complaints  
**Cc:** [redacted]  
**Subject:** FW: Conduct and culture of Rotherham Council Officers

Hi [redacted]

Can you arrange for a draft response to this letter please to go out in Commissioner Manzie's name?

Thanks  
[redacted]

---

**From:** Commissioners  
**Sent:** 17 July 2015 16:09  
**To:** [redacted]  
**Cc:** Manzie, Stella  
**Subject:** FW: Conduct and culture of Rotherham Council Officers

Hello [redacted]

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Regards  
[redacted]

**From:** [rob.foulds@googlemail.com](mailto:rob.foulds@googlemail.com) [mailto:[rob.foulds@googlemail.com](mailto:rob.foulds@googlemail.com)] **On Behalf Of** Rob Foulds  
**Sent:** 17 July 2015 15:36  
**To:** Commissioners  
**Subject:** Conduct and culture of Rotherham Council Officers



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Yours faithfully

Robert Foulds  
Clerk to the Parish Council

**Managing Director's Office**

Riverside House

Main Street

Rotherham

S60 1AE

Tel: (01709) 822773

E-mail: [stella.manzie@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:stella.manzie@rotherham.gov.uk)

*Email the Council for free @ your local library!*

<b>Our Ref:</b>	<b>Direct Line:</b>	<b>Extension:</b>	<b>Please Contact:</b>
SML/LH	(01709) 822773	22773	Commissioner Manzie

4<sup>th</sup> August 2015

Mr Robert Foulds  
Clerk to the Parish Council  
Bramley Parish Council  
101a Bawtry Road  
Bramley  
Rotherham  
S66 2TW

Dear Mr Foulds

**Conduct and culture of Rotherham Council Officers**

Thank you for your letter dated 17<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

As you are aware Commissioners are keen to work closely with the Council's key stakeholders and Parish Councils are a very important element in this.

Within your letter you have expressed the Parish Council's views on its expectations in relation to the performance and involvement of the Council with regard to a number of issues over a number of years that does not meet the standards that the Parish Council expects. Whilst I am aware of some of the history in relation to certain projects in the Bramley area I can assure you that Commissioners have clearly expressed their expectations in the standards that need to be met by Elected Members and Officers of the Council.

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Yours sincerely

**Stella Manzie**  
Commissioner and Managing Director