

## Harbours Committee - 16 June 2021

### Public Participation

#### 1. Susan Boyd

##### Question

Last week, temporary road closures were put in place affecting Weymouth Town Bridge and Custom House Quay. These closures were sprung upon harbour users with virtually no notice. The public notices posted by Dorset Council Traffic Team on the Dorset Council roadworks and road closures webpage a few days in advance is simply not adequate when these road closures also potentially impact quayside operations and vessel movements. Ms Punchard, what measures have you put in place with your colleagues in Place Services to ensure that this situation does not arise again and the needs of harbour users are considered seriously. It is unacceptable to have these decisions thrust upon harbour users with zero dialogue beforehand.

##### Response

Regarding last week's temporary road closures on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June, one was related to the live outside screening of a football match at Custom House Quay, and the other related to the Weymouth Half Marathon. Whilst the road closure application for the football screening had been made some weeks beforehand, the application to the Safety Advisory Group (SAG) for consideration of the event was not made until late in May. This led to a delay in the road closure decision on this occasion. The second event being the Weymouth half marathon was also applied for in May.

Moving forward a protocol has been developed that will ensure that Weymouth Harbour staff are fully involved at the time of making an application for an event or road closure so they can advise on the implications of these events on Harbour commercial operations and Harbour customers. This will allow time to balance the requirements of stakeholders and provide the SAG with the relevant updated information to fully consider the impact of these events when planned to take place at the Harbour side.

Once agreed this information will be disseminated via the normal communication channels to harbour operators and users, including the Weymouth Harbour website and direct emailing to all Harbour customers affected by the road closures at the earliest opportunity.