Appendix 2: Summary and consideration of objections/support received to the advertised proposals

Response	Received from	Date Received	Reply/Recommendation
Please note that I have no enthusiasm for this Event. I see it as in imposition on Council Tax and Commercial Premise Tax payers of our Caerphilly County Borough. I cannot support even on the premise of Health that this is a good idea. To disrupt the highway network for the sake of any sport is unacceptable. I see no economic benefit to this whatsoever. Should any serious accidents to cyclists occur whilst they are in Caerphilly they will be transported out of Borough as our Local Emergency Unit as Ystrad Fawr would not be able to assist. We do not need this sort of whole day disruption and I am concerned at Welsh Government thinking this is an acceptable	Local member	11/04/2015	Comments noted. In order to facilitate a safe event, full road closures are necessary. Access to Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr hospital will be maintained throughout the event.
I wish to raise my concerns over the cycle race proposed for Sunday June 14th. This clashes with the Caerphilly Flower Festival which is financed by the Town Council. The Festival entails a lot of hard work by the churches and societies taking part. Visitors will have difficulty accessing the churches on that day as will worshipers. Will the open top bus be able to transport people to the various venues? Furthermore many elderly worshipers require lifts to their place of worship. At Van Road U.R.C. we have a minister coming from Newport on that day, hopefully she will be able to reach us. To rub salt into wounds we have cancelled our morning service on Sunday 21st because of the 10k run. It seems that those who organise these events have no regard for the Christian community in Caerphilly, the efforts made to make the Flower Festival successful and visitor friendly, and the revenue it brings to the town.	Local Church Secretary	20/04/2015	Comments noted. The Council's Event Safety Advisory Group has not been made aware of this event but will facilitate co-ordination between the respective event organisers to minimise any impact.

As the secretary of a local church community in Caerphilly (the Christadelphians), I would like to register an objection to the extent of the proposed road closures for this event. This will severely hamper or completely prevent many of the congregation getting into Caerphilly on that day as many outside the town itself. It is yet another example (along with the 10K bike ride and the Big Cheese) that impact on the regular arrangements of local inhabitants, and that impact on their freedom of worship. Given that the 10K ride is planned for the following Sunday, that means that there will be 2 consecutive Sundays of disruption. It would be nice to hear that the Velothon will not enter the borough at all.	Local Church Secretary	18/04/2015	In order to facilitate a safe event, full road closures are necessary. The issues will be raised with the event organiser to check whether further accommodations can be made.
I have been searching the website for information regarding road closures on 14th June 2015. From what I can find, it appears the 50k route will pass through Caerphilly by coming from Basaleg towards Machen, turning towards Draethen and passing the Maenllwyd inn and St James's church before heading into Caerphilly town centre along Van Road. Could you please let me know if any of the roads along this route will be closed? I live in Rudry, next door to St James's church and directly on the road so any road closures would effect me considerably. I am also planning a birthday party on the Saturday night and will have many guests staying the night, so any road closures will affect their ability to get home on the 14th June.	Resident of Rudry	17/04/2015	All of the affected routes identified will be closed to vehicular traffic between approximately 07:00 and 09:30. Guests would need to wait until the roads have reopened before leaving. The event organiser is expected to provide more precise details on the duration of closures prior to the event (via their website).
I understand from Press reports that there are to be extensive road closures in an around Caerphilly on the 14th June 2015 for a period of up to 9 hours in connection with the above event. This will also involve disruption over Caerphilly Mountain and into Cardiff which is the route many normally take on a Sunday Does this mean that there will be no way through or around Caerphilly for the large number of people who pass through Caerphilly on Sundays for work, shopping and other activities in Cardiff, not to mention traffic	Member of the public	16/04/2015	Drivers would need to use the A468/A469 and A470 routes in order to travel from Caerphilly to Cardiff. Detailed plans of the proposed road closures are available of the Council's website and the event organiser's website. The emergency services have been fully

responding to emergencies. A complete closure of routes through or around Caerphilly is not feasible Will there be alternative routes marked out for such travellers and if so could these be published well before the event otherwise many people will be extremely disadvantaged on the day?			consulted on the planning for this event and will be represented in the control centre on the day. Rail services would be unaffected.
Maesycwmmer Community Council are concerned that access to the village will be severely restricted by this event. We would like to be reassured that the organisers will do everything possible to minimise the disruption to residents. We are also concerned about access to the village for carers on the day.	Community Council	16/04/2015	Comments noted. In order to facilitate a safe event, full road closures are necessary. However, the event organiser has offered some mitigation to maintain restricted access that will be kept open for as long as possible during the event.
I am concerned about the road closures for the Velothon on Sunday June 14th. Road closures on a Sunday are going keep many people isolated at home. There will be disruption to bus services which are few on Sundays as it is. My daughter works in Cardiff in a hotel and has problems getting to and from work when there are big events in the city as she is unable to take her car to work due to road closures and these are normally on Saturdays or week days. There a few trains or buses running on Sundays. I assume the council will request the train and bus companies for more transport on that Sunday as many people have to go to work and lose money if they can't get to work. Taxis will also lose money as they will be unable to travel to their fares. Also many people go to church on Sundays and will not be able to get there. Many people also visit relations or sports activities and as it is a holiday season, any visitors will have trouble getting to Caerphilly to visit the castle or even to watch the event. Not a good thing for tourism. I assume you have arranged for extra transport. Please have	Member of the public	16/04/2015	Comments noted. In order to facilitate a safe event, full road closures are necessary. Liaison with bus operators has been undertaken with a view to maintaining services as far as possible however, there will be significant disruption and the bus operator should be contacted for details of any changes to services.
a rethink about road closures. The route for the Velothon as outlined would have significant impacts on residents in my ward. The closure of bypass from	Local Member	16/04/2015	Comments noted.

Ystrad Mynach to the Cedar Tree roundabout will likely mean that many residents will have to change their travel arrangements on that day, incurring greater inconvenience. The closure of Bedwas Road will make it impossible for residents living in Meadowland Close and Long Heath Close to get out. Can you inform me if this is correct? I'm also mindful of any other streets that will effectively be blocked off. Can I request a meeting with the organisers and CCBC as soon as possible to discuss these issues? I wish to add my above comments to the consultation which ends on 24th April.			In order to facilitate a safe event, full road closures are necessary. Where possible mitigation to maintain at least restricted access is proposed. Alternative parking arrangements are being considered for residents of Meadowland Close and Long Heath Close.
Once again Caerphilly residents will be subjected to total disruption for a sporting event that will gridlock the town It may be on a Sunday, but what will be the cost to the local businesses and to the already cashed strapped Council? Apart from the publicity (sic) for our beautiful town, what are real, tangible benefits? In none of information provided is there anything purporting to be a cost benefit analysis. The Council have for this event and previous cycling events been noticeably secretive on the financial aspects and telling the residents where their money is being (mis)spent When will the Council actually put the residents first? They are, after all, the people who contribute to the inflated salaries of the senior officers	Member of the public	15/04/2015	In order to facilitate a safe event, full road closures are necessary. The Council has not been asked to make any financial contribution to the event. There are potentially significant health, well-being and economic benefits to be derived from the staging of the event. For example, 35% of adults across the UK are considered as cyclists whereas in Wales the percentage of adults considered as cyclists is 30%, significantly below the UK average. The direct economic impact of the event is estimated at in excess of £3m to the Welsh economy.
As a resident of Crumlin, I am totally against this road closure. There are currently road closures around Newbridge and as a result all the traffic is being diverted through Crumlin, peak times are a nightmare! I live on Hillside Road in Crumlin which is narrow and only one way traffic can pass on some points of the road, the volume of traffic taking short	Resident of Crumlin	14/04/2015	Comments noted. In order to facilitate a safe event, full road closures are necessary. The emergency services have been fully

cuts at present is getting dangerous. The road is full of potholes which is dangerous as cars swerve around them narrowly missing parked cars. We are experiencing enough disruption at present as far as I'm concerned so why should we be put through anymore? Closing major roads is a joke, what about emergency services? Do any of you live in the proposed areas that are going to experience this? Lots of residents in Crumlin feel the same including my neighbours.			consulted on the planning for this event and will be represented in the control centre on the day.
With ref to the above subject. I would like to ask how can they possibly close the roads to traffic for this cycling event to take place. How is this going to affect Maesycwmmer residents it is hard enough to get access in and out of the village as it is. These proposed road closures are ludicrous for a cycling event to take place.	Resident of Maesycwmmer	13/04/2015	Comments noted. In order to facilitate a safe event, full road closures are necessary. However, the event organiser has offered some mitigation to maintain restricted access that will be kept open for as long as possible during the event.
I as a resident of Castle Park, must show a protest about the proposed road closures for the bicycle event in June. The protest is that we in Castle Park would have no vehicle access to any main routes. I would also state the obvious that if we can' get out, then, access in would also be a problem. I am all for these events happening in Caerphilly, however not at the expense of the access of the residents once again.	Resident of Caerphilly	13/04/2015	Comments noted. In order to facilitate a safe event, full road closures are necessary. Castle park residents will be able to access the Lansbury Park distributor road and then A468 / M4 via Bedwas / Rhiwderin after 09:30 hours.
At the recent drop-in consultation regarding the above, you said officers would be checking out the proposed alternative routes. You will be aware from the meeting that I am particularly concerned about the back road of Ynysddu which is a residential road running from Ynysddu to The Mill Pontllanfraith. This lane can take normal traffic but is not suitable for heavy 2-way traffic. My concerns were highlighted yesterday when the road	Local Member	13/04/2015	The lane will not be signed as a diversionary route and will therefore only be used by local drivers who are already familiar with it. A significant amount of advanced signage is to be erected in advance of the Full Moon roundabout, as well as on the B4251 route, to advise northbound drivers that the B4251 will be closed at Wyllie. This signage will deter the vast majority of drivers from travelling

between the Sainsbury roundabout and Pontllanfraith was closed. Even though Sunday traffic is considered to be light in comparison with week-day traffic and there were plenty of alternative routes that drivers could choose, the build up of traffic at junctions was considerable. The proposed closure of the Main A470 takes place there will be very few alternative routes available. There will be major disruption and I am concerned that this lane will be not be able to take the additional traffic. One example was last year when there was a fatal accident on the B4251 - when the traffic was being directed to this lane to avoid the accident scene, the police had to be called to turn traffic around when the lane become gridlocked. [My ward Member colleague] also shares my concerns and we would be grateful if you would come back to us on this. I am a convenience store owner on the A472 at Maesycwmmer. I am very unhappy that you could even consider closing the road past my store for 8-9 hrs of peak trading hours. I cannot afford to close for the day as I have to pay my staff, my rates, my mortgage etc weather I open or not. So who is going to compensate me for my loss of trade. I am a convenience store and I need to be convenient. Also the people of Maesycwmmer will not be able to get in or out of the village if the road is closed.	Business owner in Maesycwmmer	13/04/2015	Comments noted. In order to facilitate a safe event, full road closures are necessary. However, the event organiser has offered some mitigation to maintain restricted access that will be kept open for as long as possible during the event. Any claims for financial loss must be submitted to the event organiser for consideration.
Surely the road being closed at the town end of Van rd is not required it should be the library side of the street. This will allow limited access for the residents at the top of town. Can somebody explain who made the decision to shut Caerphilly off for 9 hrs in the tourist season. what a bright idea	Resident of Caerphilly	11/04/2015	In order to facilitate a safe event, full road closures, including this location, are necessary.
Thank you for consulting, we and our shop tenants would never condone road closures in this area during trading hours. We have experienced many such 'events' in recent	Centre Manager Castle Court Shopping Centre	09/04/2015	Comments noted. In order to facilitate a safe event, full road

years and have proven they have a detrimental effect upon			closures are necessary.
Our trade. I find it quite unbelievable that the Welsh Assembly Government can agree to such widespread road closures over such a long duration cutting off so many communities for virtually the whole day, so that a family fun ride and third rate cycle race can take place. Pantside in Newbridge will be totally cut off all day, the only route out of Blaenau Gwent will be south through Newbridge and via Westend, Abercarn. This route will have to carry all the traffic that is using the A467 and A472 going toward Pontypool as this road is also shut, meaning traffic for Cwmbran is forced to travel via Newport to get there. Traffic from the Sirhowy Valley and Blackwood will have to go through the Springfield Estate to cross the route of the race as the organisers will not allow traffic to cross any of the closed roads on the level, only pedestrians who can cross at designated points. How are Health Visitors and Carers going to visit the sick, how are the 600,000 people that live in the Greater Gwent area supposed to go about their daily business. This area is not like a big city, where there are alternative means of transport like the underground. In many cases there is no public transport on a Sunday and no alternative routes for people to get to work. This event has been signed up to for a 5 year period by the Welsh Government. I believe there will by a huge public outcry over this, it has not been advertised at all in the press other than the normal PR good points, with promises of TV coverage for the area and an increase in tourism. I have spoken to a number of local businesses who are on the direct route of the race, they have not been approached by the organisers. One local	Member of the public	08/04/2015	Comments noted. In order to facilitate a safe event, full road closures are necessary. The event organiser will undertake an extensive stakeholder engagement exercise in advance of the event. Together with the substantial advance signage of the road closures, residents and road users will be able to make an informed choice about their options. The extent of the consultation on the proposed road closures is identified in Appendix 1. This includes liaison with the Council's Social Services to accommodate any specific needs for the delivery of services, bus operators etc.

business in Crumlin will lose over £9000 because he is shut for the day. I have asked Stagecoach about changes to bus timetables and they are in the dark as well. The organisers are not talking to people. They should be taking out newspaper ads in the same way that Network Rail has covered the Easter rail closures. The numbers of people affected are much the same, an entire region is being brought to a standstill. People may be able to alter routes they use and plan around it if they know about it but information about road closures will not be released until May and many people will not know until "This road will be Closed" signs are erected a few days before the event. I also believe information about your consultation is hidden away in the back of the CCBC website so not as to draw to much attention to it. This event not only affects Caerphilly County but large areas of Torfaen, Monmouthshire and Newport and even closes Junction 28 of the M4 Motorway, the level of disruption is far beyond the publics level of tolerance. It needs urgent			
rethinking. I have just seen the information regarding the road closures for the Velothon Wales in June. I live on Corbetts Lane and the entrance to this road will be closed on the day, meaning that the residents will not be able to leave the street, and there will be no access to the Cedar Tree pub/hotel. Would you please confirm how long the closure will be in place, and at what time of day.	Resident of Caerphilly	07/04/2015	In order to facilitate a safe event, full road closures are necessary from between 07:00 and 18:00 hours. However, the event organiser has offered some mitigation to maintain restricted access that will be kept open for as long as possible during the event. The event organiser is expected to provide more precise details on the duration of closures prior to the event (via their website).

Responses to the planned road closures were generally negative, most young people consulted did not feel interested in the event and felt it is causing too much disruption. Comments from them: "could they use a less busy route or a cycling track instead?" "How will workers such as carers get to their calls?" "People may be delayed trying to get to hospital" "They should have spoken to local residents before organising it"	St Cenydd Youth Club	20/04/2015	Comments noted. In order to facilitate a safe event, full road closures are necessary.
I am a resident of Ystrad Mynach and therefore live on the route of the proposed Velothon Wales to be held on June 14 th 2015. Following the success and excitement generated by the Tour of Britain coming to Caerphilly in recent years and then the disappointment following the loss of the event by the council, I was extremely excited when I found out that the UCI Velothon Wales event was coming to Caerphilly and through my home town of Ystrad Mynach. And then, when I realised that I would be able to ride the same route as the professionals on closed roads I thought it was too good an opportunity to miss and signed up for the sportive event. 15,000 other people from all over the world obviously felt the same way, with many of them riding for charitable causes, just like the London Marathon. Now I understand from reading the press that there is a chance that the council will not sanction the closure of the roads for the event. As a local resident I think it would be a huge mistake not to close the roads for this event on the grounds of both safety and the message it would send out to the world about Caerphilly, which has become an iconic cycling destination in recent years following very positive worldwide TV coverage of the event, showing our beautiful county in a very positive light. Added to that, the popularity of the event was obvious as the streets of Ystrad Mynach and Caerphilly were teeming	Resident of Ystrad Mynach	20/04/2015	Comments noted. In order to facilitate a safe event, full road closures are necessary and will be implemented by the event organiser.

with spectators in a real carnival atmosphere. With the recent high profile successes of Welsh professional riders like Geraint Thomas and Luke Rowe this will hopefully add to the occasion and get the locals out in big numbers again for Velothon Wales. People from all over the world will be taking part in the event and it will give them a great experience of our county if the council gets behind it. Hopefully many will be inspired to come back as there are many great cycling routes in Caerphilly County and surely isn't this exactly the sort of sustainable tourism, taking advantage of the fantastic scenery of our hills and valleys, that the council should be encouraging?			
Frankly, it will be an embarrassment if the roads are not closed in the Caerphilly Council area or if the ride does not pass through as a result and the council is bound to be cast in a negative light in TV commentary of the event and in the press. I have read comments in the press from a councillor along the lines of "It'll do nothing for this area," which is a sad reflection on the mind-set of some of our elected representatives. Well, do we want to welcome the world and show off our county or do we want to remain mired in a narrow minded, short sighted bubble where nobody can see beyond their own valley? It should be obvious that this is a huge opportunity for Caerphilly that should not be missed and, if it is missed, will say much for the confidence, ambitions and horizons of the council.			
I am writing as requested to state my views on the above venture. After Caerphilly Council have already ditched plans to have the cycle tour of Britain come through Caerphilly, I am dismayed that Caerphilly council think this event will cause disruption. Surely such an amazing activity can only be good for Wales and Caerphilly. There will be huge interest and lots of local cyclists will be taking part, for goodness sake surely people can manage with road closures for this major event. Come on Caerphilly Council welcome, support and	Resident of Caerphilly	17/04/2015	Comments noted.

embrace this opportunity.		
We welcome the Velothon to Wales and Caerphilly CC but would like to make a few points. I am chairperson of S.A.F.E (Safety And Facilities for Equestrians) SAFE is a voluntary, non-profit making bridlepath group, affiliated to The British Horse Society, working in the South Wales area. Statistics show over 3000 road accidents between cars and horses occur every year. Many local country lanes now experience a lot of traffic particularly at commuter time	15/04/2015	Comments noted. They will be passed to the event organisers for consideration as part of the signing for the event.
Caerphilly Mountain Area. The closure of Mountain Road B4263 with A469. I am concerned that traffic deciding not to re route to the A470 will take roads thro Mornington Meadows and/or Van Road towards Rudry, Cardiff/Newport and Watford Road (Caerphilly Miners), Ffordd Waunwaelod and Blackbrook Road, near Black Cock Inn to Heol-Pen-y-Bryn, Blaengwynlais and to Tongwynlais or Rhiwbina. All these routes would pass through areas of horse routes /bridlepaths (towards Rudry Caerphilly CC Links & Loops routes, Wernddu, Coed-y-whipps, Cefn Mably and in Blaengwynlais area Forest Fawr, Forest Ganol, Cwm Nofydd)so I feel we some warning notices for road users through these areas are neccessary. Drivers often think they can hoot their horn and speed through the lanes and oncoming traffic will hoot back. If we could have some signage to warn drivers they are on rural roads and may meet horseriders/walkers/pleasure cyclists. We will through our bridlepath group alert our members that they will meet greatly increased volume of traffic on Sunday 14th June. Any help or advice we can give on the siting of notices etc		

please contact me.			
I am very much for the Velothon passing through Caerphilly. As a resident of Caerphilly- the closures will affect me, however I think that this is totally worth it for a single day for the benefits it will bring. I know many of the cyclists will be raising money or charity & Caerphilly will be showcased in a very positive way.	Resident of Caerphilly	14/04/2015	Comments noted.
As a member of a local bike club (Castle Bikes, Trethomas) I'd like to urge the council to support the planned road closures for this event. As far as I can see it the positives would be:	Member of the public	12/04/2015	Comments noted.
1 – Increased footfall in the town and surrounding areas due to spectators (both locals, and those coming in to the area for the event), which will generate revenue 2 – Raised profile of the local cycling scene which will improve the image of the area as a destination for cyclists (the notorious Mountain Rd is one of the featured climbs that thanks to the event is being advertised GLOBALLY FOR FREE). Cyclists visiting the area spend money. 3 – Inspiration for local children (and adults) to get fit by cycling and so reduce long-term costs of many illnesses 4 – Inspiration for cycling a sustainable form of transport that reduces pollution, congestion and road damage. 5 – Very many of the thousands of participants will be locals – as local constituents surely their enjoyment, and fitness is valuable? We're only talking about roads being closed for a matter of hours, compared to the long term benefits mentioned above, it's crazy not so support this event. I honestly cannot understand why the council isn't grasping this opportunity with both hands. Look at what has happened to the cycle tourism industry in Yorkshire after the TdF, obviously this event is not on the same scale but it's big news amongst the cycling community in Wales (and England), will attract amateur and professional cyclists to the area, and it can't fail to improve the image of the area – please see the big picture!!			

Do the people of Monaco regret having the Grand Prix?			
Does London regret having the Marathon?			
Well done on allowing this event to pass through Caerphilly. I am in full support of this event, and can see the benefits it will bring to our County.	Resident	10/04/2015	Comments noted.
I would like to write in support of the proposed road closures for Velothon Wales to be held in June this year.	Resident of Machen	09/04/2015	Comments noted.
Although living in Machen we will not be a little restricted in where we can go that weekend, the event looks fantastic and we will be out supporting the riders and racers as they climb the mountain!			
I have actually signed up for the event & have booked myself into a B&B in Penarth. I'll also be having a day either side exploring the local area including Caerphilly so I think it will provide extra tourism to the area, I'm travelling from Lincolnshire so it shows the level of interest in the event. I admit most of the benefit will be felt in Cardiff but cycling through the route could easily sway many to come back to the area if the views on the Velothon Wales route videos are anything to go by. I don't think it would be sensible to open any of the roads with the number of riders involved, I personally feel it could lead to greater risk for any road users.	Member of the public	09/04/2015	Comments noted.
Very quickly - I've already spent the entry fee as well as over £200 (non refundable) on local hotels for two nights spanning the event. I'll inevitably spend a lot more on food etc etc I did all this as it was closed roads. Simple.	Member of the public	09/04/2015	Comments noted.
It was sold as closed roads. Keep it closed roads.			
We'll bring in far more money than will be lost because someone couldn't get to work on timetell them to cycle!			
I have no problem with the proposed road closures to enable the Velathon to come through the borough. I feel that the positive exposure this event will bring outweighs the	Member of the public	07/04/2015	Comments noted.

inconvenience of a few hours of road closure.			
inconvenience of a low floats of road closure.			
Providing sufficient trains are laid on for shoppers then I see			
no issue.			
I am the estate manager for [a local] pub. I write to you with some concerns regarding the proposed Velothan cycle race planned for 14 June My Client is just about to close the pub for a refurbishment. It is due to re-open on 2 June but we have been advised you are proposing to close off the roads around the pub for the Velothon cycle race on 14 June for around 9 hours (although the exact hours for the race are not stated). This coming so close to the re-opening means potentially a lot of the goodwill generated by promotions and marketing could be lost. I think, importantly how do you anticipate that the public will be able to access the pub during the event, where will the nearest parking be? If it is any distance off then we don't think people will come to the restaurant which could mean a loss of the day's takings. How do you propose to mitigate these potential losses? What steps are being taken to support businesses that will be	Local business	20/04/2015	Comments noted. In order to facilitate a safe event, full road closures are necessary from between 07:00 and 18:00 hours. However, the event organiser has offered some mitigation to maintain restricted access that will be kept open for as long as possible during the event. The event organiser is expected to provide more precise details on the duration of closures prior to the event (via their website). The issues will be raised with the event organiser so that they can make direct contact with the business to see what accommodations can be made.
affected during the event – signs etc?			
During what hours is the race taking place? I live in Llanbradach. I wish to travel to church in Cardiff	Resident of	20/04/2015	Access to the A470 will be maintained as the
leaving at 09.15 on the day of the race. Please can you confirm if I can access the A470 bypassing Nelson to the Aberdare roundabout. Also will the road be closed between the roundabout at the end of the Llanbradach bypass and the Ceder Tree roundabout? If so this will stop me accessing the Caerphilly bypass to proceed to the A470 to Cardiff.	Llanbradach		A469 northbound lane by passing Llanbradach will remain open. Access southbound at the Coed-y-Brain roundabout on the A469 may be available via a contra-flow system allowing access to Cardiff via Nantgarw Hill and the A470. Details will be confirmed by the event organiser prior to the event.