

Nick Pickles
Head of Public Policy
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David Quirke-Thornton
Strategic Director of Children & Adults
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Southwark Council
160 Tooley Street
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Date: 8 June 2017

Dear Mr Pickles

I write as the Humanitarian Assistance Lead Officer (HALO) for the London Bridge and Borough Market terrorist incident and chair of the Humanitarian Assistance Steering Group (HASG) coordinating our response to this dreadful incident which has affected so many.

I understand that despite requests to take down video footage of this incident that Twitter have refused to do so. This is utterly reprehensible. I call on you to immediately take down all such content of this incident and to prevent any further content from appearing on Twitter.

You cannot underestimate the suffering this is causing to the families and friends of those who tragically lost their lives and those who suffered injuries. Many people have been directly affected by this terrorist incident and have suffered greatly. You are causing additional suffering and great pain by refusing to take down this content. This is avoidable and preventable if you would only act in a decent, humane and responsible manner and immediately take down the content.

Colleagues from Police, NHS, national and local government and the voluntary sector are working flat out to support those affected by this terrible terrorist incident. People who live and work in Southwark have been immensely kind and compassionate. I have also been impressed by the generosity of local and national private companies who have stepped forward to offer support to people affected by this incident. In stark contrast, by refusing to take down such content, Twitter appear to have chosen to add to the already unbearable grief and suffering of victims, their families and friends. You need to urgently reconsider your position and to act now and to do the right thing which is obvious and clear.

Yours sincerely



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