

Statement from VisitWiltshire

**Business as usual for tourism providers in Salisbury and surrounding areas**

VisitWiltshire are reporting that business is remaining very much as usual in the historic city of Salisbury and the surrounding areas, as tourism providers - including hotels, bars, restaurants, attractions and tour companies welcome visitors to the city. Salisbury tourism agencies and businesses continue to welcome visitors into the city.

VisitWiltshire, alongside Wiltshire Council, Salisbury City Council and Salisbury BID are monitoring feedback from local businesses, the developments and the advice being given by national agencies following the incident on Sunday 4 March 2018. Updates are being given on a daily basis and there are no reports of any current risk to visitors.

VisitWiltshire will continue to monitor local businesses as well as national and international travel trade. VisitWiltshire recently attended the world’s biggest travel trade event, ITB Berlin from 7-11 March, and initial feedback indicates there are currently few concerns about longer-term travel to Salisbury.

“Salisbury is a highly popular visitor destination and, employing almost 10% of the local workforce, is a key contributor to the local economy,” comments David Andrews, Chief Executive of VisitWiltshire.

“Businesses across the city are operating very much as usual. We will continue to monitor tourism business, travel trade and national tourism agencies to identify any possible future impacts. We continue to encourage local, regional, national and international visitors into the city - whether for a day visit or a longer stay – they will receive the warm and hospitable welcome the city is so well known for.”

For further information follow website and social media feeds of VisitWiltshire, Salisbury City Council and the Salisbury Business Improvement District. For further information contact Florence Wallace, flowallace@visitwiltshire.co.uk. For interviews please also contact Councillor Matthew Dean c/o Claire Burden, Tel: 01722 342870 cburden@salisburycitycouncil.gov.uk or Laurie Bell, Director Communications, Wiltshire Council. Tel: 01225 713116 laurie.Bell@wiltshire.gov.uk.

**Statement updated 14 March 2018**

*VisitWiltshire is the official Destination Management & Marketing Organisation for Wiltshire representing 600 partners. It is a public/private sector membership organisation. VisitWiltshire's priority is to grow the county's Visitor Economy by raising awareness of the destination and generating additional tourism visits and spend.  Wiltshire's Visitor Economy currently generates an estimated £1.5billion and supports over 29,000 jobs.*