# Liverpool parade safety under scrutiny after vehicle crowd incident and fresh images raise concerns



Fresh images from Liverpool FC’s recent Premier League parade, which attracted an estimated one million fans, have incited substantial concern over safety measures in place during the high-profile event. This follows a troubling incident on May 26 where nearly 80 individuals were injured when a car was driven into crowds on Water Street, including children as young as nine and a 78-year-old. As scrutiny mounts, many are questioning the planning and execution surrounding crowd control and traffic management.

Critics have pointed out that shortly before the team bus's arrival, large vehicles were seen navigating through the throngs of fans on Queens Drive. Images captured moments before the event show both children and adults in close proximity to moving traffic, raising alarms about the appropriateness of allowing such access in the midst of countless spectators. A father attending the parade with his young son expressed incredulity, asking, “How on earth is a lorry allowed to drive through hundreds of people lined on both sides of the road?” These sentiments resonate with others who also observed the lack of sufficient precautions.

A former Merseyside Police officer echoed these concerns, noting that while one side of the roadway was closed to vehicles heading towards the parade, the opposite lane remained open, allowing heavy goods vehicles to mingle with the crowd. He remarked on the palpable fear this engendered, saying, “There were lots of us asking… why were these vehicles being allowed through when there were so many people in the road?”

In response to the alarming conditions, local officials are taking action. Liverpool Community Independents leader Cllr Alan Gibbons has formally requested information from Liverpool City Council regarding the measures taken ahead of the parade. His query highlights critical issues about public safety and the oversight of the event, questioning, “Why does footage appear to show no visible police presence in the vicinity at the time of the vehicle entering the area?” Such inquiries aim to ensure that lessons are learned and future events are planned with ample safety measures.

Amidst the present chaos, it is worth noting the juxtaposition of this celebration with the distressing incidents at the UEFA Champions League final in Paris last year. An independent report has since attributed organisational failures largely to UEFA, placing them at the centre of the chaos experienced by Liverpool supporters in France. The blunders at that event have prompted calls for significant reforms aimed at ensuring fan safety, with recommendations that could be pivotal for managing future large-scale gatherings.

The Liverpool parade initially unfolded against a backdrop of positivity and celebration. Many fans had gathered to honour the team's FA and Carabao Cup triumphs, reveling in the atmosphere as flags waved and team colours adorned the crowd. However, the events that transpired in parallel in Paris remind attendees and authorities alike of the dire need for improved planning and safety protocols — not just to celebrate football, but to protect the very fans who form its core.

As debates unfold over the safety measures employed during the parade, what remains clear is the pressing imperative for transparency and accountability in the organisation of such monumental gatherings. The focus must shift toward ensuring safety is firmly at the forefront of future events, addressing not only the present concerns in Liverpool but also drawing on lessons learned from broader circumstances in recent football history.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2062761/new-liverpool-parade-images-spark-question-safety-measures), [[2]](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-merseyside-61619098)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2062761/new-liverpool-parade-images-spark-question-safety-measures), [[2]](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-merseyside-61619098)
* Paragraph 3 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2062761/new-liverpool-parade-images-spark-question-safety-measures), [[4]](https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20230214-liverpool-call-for-uefa-action-to-guarantee-supporter-safety), [[5]](https://www.metro.co.uk/2023/02/13/inquiry-blames-uefa-for-paris-final-fiasco-nd-credits-liverpool-fans-for-saving-lives-18276158/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[6]](https://www.thisisanfield.com/2023/06/premier-league-clubs-agree-criminal-proceedings-for-tragedy-chanting/), [[7]](https://www.inkl.com/news/why-joyous-liverpool-fc-parade-got-it-so-right-after-paris-went-so-wrong)
* Paragraph 5 – [[3]](https://www.theguardian.com/football/2023/feb/14/liverpool-fans-lawyers-claims-against-uefa-report-strengthens-case-champions-league-final), [[4]](https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20230214-liverpool-call-for-uefa-action-to-guarantee-supporter-safety), [[5]](https://www.metro.co.uk/2023/02/13/inquiry-blames-uefa-for-paris-final-fiasco-nd-credits-liverpool-fans-for-saving-lives-18276158/)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2062761/new-liverpool-parade-images-spark-question-safety-measures> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-merseyside-61619098> - This BBC News article reports on the Liverpool FC victory parade that took place on 29 May 2022. The parade was a celebration of Liverpool's FA and Carabao Cup triumphs, with thousands of fans lining the streets to welcome the team. The event was marked by a festive atmosphere, with supporters displaying flags and wearing the team's colours. The article highlights the scale of the celebration and the positive reception from the public, contrasting it with the previous day's events in Paris during the Champions League final.
3. <https://www.theguardian.com/football/2023/feb/14/liverpool-fans-lawyers-claims-against-uefa-report-strengthens-case-champions-league-final> - The Guardian article discusses how a report into the 2022 UEFA Champions League final chaos in Paris has strengthened the case of Liverpool fans' lawyers. The report, commissioned by UEFA, found that the organisation bore primary responsibility for the organisational and safety failures leading to the chaos. It also criticised French authorities for their heavy-handed response to supporters. The article highlights the impact of the report on ongoing legal actions and the calls for accountability and improved safety measures for future events.
4. <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20230214-liverpool-call-for-uefa-action-to-guarantee-supporter-safety> - France 24 reports on Liverpool's call for UEFA to take action to guarantee supporter safety following the 2022 Champions League final chaos. The article details the findings of an independent report that blamed UEFA for the organisational failures and criticised French police for their heavy-handed response to fans. Liverpool officials and supporters are calling for the implementation of 21 recommendations to ensure such incidents do not occur in the future, emphasising the need for improved planning and safety measures at major events.
5. <https://www.metro.co.uk/2023/02/13/inquiry-blames-uefa-for-paris-final-fiasco-nd-credits-liverpool-fans-for-saving-lives-18276158/> - Metro News reports on an inquiry that blames UEFA for the chaos during the 2022 Champions League final in Paris and credits Liverpool fans for saving lives. The inquiry found that UEFA's pre-match planning was based on an absence of overall control or oversight of safety and security. It also highlighted the instrumental role of Liverpool supporters in preventing fatalities during the incident. The article discusses the implications of the findings and the calls for accountability and improved safety measures for future events.
6. <https://www.thisisanfield.com/2023/06/premier-league-clubs-agree-criminal-proceedings-for-tragedy-chanting/> - This Is Anfield reports on Premier League clubs agreeing to criminal proceedings for tragedy-related chanting. The article details the league's decision to address the rise in anti-social behaviour involving football tragedy-related chanting, gesturing, graffiti, online abuse, and other behaviours. The measures aim to focus on criminal prosecution, the regulatory environment, enforcement, online abuse, education, and communications. The article also mentions the amendment of the owners' and directors' test to prohibit fully-leveraged buyouts, reflecting the league's commitment to improving the reputation and safety of football in England and Wales.
7. <https://www.inkl.com/news/why-joyous-liverpool-fc-parade-got-it-so-right-after-paris-went-so-wrong> - Inkl discusses the success of Liverpool FC's victory parade and contrasts it with the chaos experienced by fans in Paris during the Champions League final. The article highlights the differences in organisation and crowd management between the two events. It features insights from Claire McColgan, director of culture at Liverpool City Council, who oversaw the parade. The piece emphasises the positive atmosphere of the Liverpool event and the lessons that can be learned from the contrasting experiences in Paris.