

Meeting: Bus Shelter Appeals Decision Group

Subject: Minutes

Date: Thursday 12 April 2018 at 10.30am

Present

Councillor Kath Hartley (Chair)	Transport Delivery Committee
Councillor Mohammed Hanif	Transport Delivery Committee
Councillor David Stanley	Transport Delivery Committee

Apologies

Councillor Pervez Akhtar	Transport Delivery Committee
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In Attendance:

Julie Smithers, Network Coordination Specialist (Infrastructure), Transport for the West Midlands.

2/17

Recommendations of Bus Shelter Appeals Decision Group

The Decision Group considered a report of the Network Coordination Specialist (Infrastructure), setting out recommendations for consideration by the Bus Shelter Appeals Decision Group in relation to appeals against the siting of bus shelters at two locations.

(a) Laurel Road, Harebell Crescent Dudley

The Network Coordination Specialist (Infrastructure) reported that TfWM has received objections in relation to the levels of anti-social behaviour at a bus shelter outside of 152 and 154 Laurel Road.

It was noted that West Midlands Police have provided a comprehensive report that provides evidence that supports claims made by the residents. The anti-social behaviour includes youths gathering in the shelter to drink alcohol, smoke drugs, throwing missiles, playing loud music and wilfully causing harassment and distress. The bus operator who serves this stop, National Express, has also submitted a report to West Midlands Police regarding the levels of anti-social behaviour experienced by drivers at the stop.

The Bus Shelter Appeals Officer Panel had recommended that the shelter is removed and replaced with a pole.

The Decision Group considered the following points:

- The bus shelter attracts youths to congregate at the shelter that are responsible for anti-social behaviour and there is

overwhelming evidence to support this from residents, the bus operator and West Midlands Police.

- The petition and request from West Midlands Police for the removal of the shelter
- The stop is located on a main arterial route through the housing estate
- The high passenger count at the shelter.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the shelter is removed and replaced with a stop pole and
- (2) That TfWM notify West Midlands Police and the Housing Managers for the Wrest Nest Estate when the shelter is to be removed;

(b) Shady Lane, Aldridge Road, Birmingham

The Network Coordination Specialist (Infrastructure) reported that TfWM has received objections in relation to the levels of anti-social behaviour at a mini shelter outside of 359 Shady Lane.

It was noted that most of the anti-social behaviour occurs at the end of the school day when children from Great Barr Academy run around the resident's garden, look through windows, bang on the front door of the property whilst shouting and intimidating the disabled resident.

The Bus Shelter Appeals Officer Panel had recommended that the shelter is removed and replaced with a pole for a trial period of 6 months.

The Decision Group considered the following points:

- West Midlands Police support the removal of the mini shelter
- There has been on-going lobbying from ward councillors over a ten month period for the shelter to removed or relocated.
- The relocation of the shelter has been considered but the alternative location is not supported by local ward councillors.
- The anti-social behaviour is caused by school children and is matter for the police to resolve with the school.
- A trial removal of the shelter was not supported as this would not alleviate anti-social behaviour in the long- term and a temporary removal of the shelter was not cost effective.

RESOLVED that the shelter be removed and replaced with a pole.

[meeting closed at 11.20am]