

Bus Shelter Appeals Decision Group

Wednesday 11 September 2019 at 11.00am

Minutes

Present

Councillor Kath Hartley (Chair)	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Mohammed Fazal	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Mary Locke	Birmingham City Council
Councillor Alan Taylor	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council

In attendance

Julie Smithers	Transport for West Midlands
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Item No.

Title

01 Apologies for Absence

None.

02 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made relative to items under consideration at the meeting.

06 Recommendations of the Bus shelter Appeals Decision Group

The Bus Shelter Appeals Decision Group considered a report of the Network Coordination Specialist (Infrastructure), Transport for the West Midlands (TfWM) that set out recommendations in relation to an appeal against the siting of a bus shelter at Old Lode Lane, Solihull (shelter no. 809318).

The Network Coordination Specialist (Infrastructure) Julie Smithers, reported that TfWM had received objections relating to the levels of anti-social behaviour taking place within the shelter including drug abuse, youths congregating in the shelter and blatant vandalism of the shelter. A request had been made to downgrade the shelter to a stop pole.

It was noted that TfWM Crime Reduction Team had found one log dated 25 March 2019 in the area but not related to the bus shelter.

Also, the Area Police Team on 18 June 2019 had emailed to confirm they were aware of anti-social behaviour in the area and around the bus stop with damage to private property however, no specific logs have been supplied.

The Bus Shelter Appeals Officer Panel had recommended that the shelter is retained for TfWM Safer Travel Team to work with Solihull Council and the Local Police Team

for a period of 6 months to carry out high visibility patrols at peak times for the reported activity taking place.

The Decision Group gave consideration to the following points:

- The high passenger usage including the number of senior citizens.
- The frequency of bus services including a service to Heartlands Hospital.
- The bus shelter not being directly responsible for any drug dealing in the area/anti-social behaviour around the shelter.
- The need for further intelligence to be gathered on anti-social behaviour around the shelter.
- The need for residents living near to the shelter to be supplied with an anti-social behaviour diary to gather evidence and to report incidents to the police.
- The need for local ward councillors to get involved in the local community and encourage residents to provide evidence for the police.
- The need to strengthen links with TfWM Safer Travel Team and the Local Police Team.
- The police be asked to review CCTV evidence at the nearby builders' merchant and at other locations nearby to the shelter if appropriate.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the shelter be retained and the position be reviewed by TfWM after a period of 6 months with stakeholders;
- (2) That monitoring of the shelter be undertaken by TfWM's Safer Travel Team and the Local Police Team to include carrying out high visibility patrols at peak times for any recorded activity taking place during the 6 month period and reviewing CCTV evidence as appropriate, working with Solihull MBC and
- (3) That the TfWM Safer Travel Team and Local Police Team work with local ward councillors to encourage residents to gather evidence of anti-social behaviour and to report any incidents to the police; residents living near to the shelter to be supplied with an anti-social behaviour diary.

[meeting closed at 11.50am]