

REPORT TO: Environment & Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board

DATE: 22nd June 2022

REPORTING OFFICER: Operational Director, Policy, Planning & Transport

PORTFOLIO: Environment & Urban Renewal

SUBJECT: Receipt of Petition – to replace existing bus shelter with conventional type shelter.

WARDS: Norton North

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To inform the Board of a petition that has been received from the residents of Norton requesting that the existing bus shelter located at the Gooseberry Lane bus stop on the Busway be replaced with a more conventional style bus shelter. Please note the petition has been redacted from the report on the grounds of data protection.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- (1) the petition be noted;**
- (2) the Board give consideration to the request in the petition to remove the existing shelter and replace with new conventional type;**
- (3) it is suggested that the request be granted, and**
- (4) the local ward members be informed of the outcome of the Board's consideration of the petition.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 Halton Borough Council received a petition, signed by 26 bus users, requesting the removal of the existing shelter and it be replaced with a more conventional type shelter installed at other locations on the busway and across the Borough. The current style shelter offers no protection from the weather.
- 3.2 The existing shelter replaced a conventional type shelter in approximately 2010 following complaints of anti-social behaviour from residents in close proximity to the bus stop.

- 3.3 Appendix 1 one to this report shows a photograph of the shelter which is currently installed at the bus stop.
- 3.4 The design of the current shelter does only offer very limited protection due to its design.
- 3.5 Most recent figures (Apr 21-Mar 22) show anti-social behaviour to be at an average level of 5.9 incidents per month across the Norton North Ward.
- 3.6 The bus stop and shelter are approximately... from the nearest residential property.
- 3.7 Appendix 2 shows an aerial view of the bus stop location in relation to the residential properties.
- 3.8 The corresponding bus stop on the opposite side of the road has a conventional type bus shelter installed with no reports of anti-social behaviour taking place.
- 3.9 In March 2021 the Government announced the Bus Back Better Bus Strategy for England. The document attached to the announcement places emphasis on significantly improving the public transport offer in the Borough resulting in increased patronage across the public transport network. A further aspiration of the Bus Strategy is to push modal shift away from the car with a view to achieving clean air targets. In light of this, it is important that existing levels of public transport infrastructure are maintained and also upgraded where possible.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 No direct implications.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Resource Implications

There will be a cost to replacing the shelter which can be funded the current capital expenditure program.

5.2 Social Inclusion Implications

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

No direct implications.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

No direct implications

6.3 A Healthy Halton

No Direct implications.

6.4 A Safer Halton

No direct implications.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

Access to a sustainable, reliable affordable public transport network is key to Halton's urban renewal. Public transport infrastructure is a key element in providing access to the public transport network.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

The Inclusive Mobility "A Guide to Best Practice on Access to Pedestrian and Transport Infrastructure" document issued by the Department for Transport states that good practise is to provide shelters where possible. Including the provision of seating which a conventional shelter would provide.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

Accessible public transport infrastructure is key for passengers with disabilities in accessing the public transport network.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
Copy of Petition (Redacted)	Transport Co-ordination, Lowerhouse Lane, Widnes, WA8 7AW	Ian Boyd, Principal Officer Transport Co-ordination
Photograph of existing shelter	Appendix 1	
Ariel view of bus stop location	Appendix 2	

Appendix 1

