

Highways Committee

3rd September 2012

Bus Shelter – 10 Foster Terrace, Croxdale



Report of Ian Thompson, Corporate Director, Regeneration and Economic Development

Councillor Neil Foster, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Regeneration and Economic Development

Purpose of the Report

To consider objections received in relation to the proposed erection of a bus shelter outside 10 Foster Terrace, Croxdale. Having considered the objections, the Committee are recommended to endorse the proposal.

Background

1. The local member has received requests from residents of Croxdale for a bus shelter to be provided at the bus stop outside 10 Foster Terrace, Croxdale.
2. There is one main bus service utilising this bus stop, the service runs 4 buses per hour during Monday to Saturday daytime.
3. The proposed shelter will be provided and maintained by Durham County Council.

Proposal

4. To erect a fully glazed bus shelter with perch seat at the bus stop outside 10 Foster Terrace, Croxdale. (See Appendix 2)

Consultation

5. All 18 properties on Foster Terrace, Croxdale have been consulted on the proposal.
6. Local members, Councillors Mac Williams and Jan Blakey, have also been consulted and appraised of the matter and are fully supportive of the proposal.
7. There was only one response from a resident who objected on a number of points, details of the objections are below.

Objections and responses

8. Objection 1:

The objector feels the proposed shelter will ruin the views from his window and diminish the natural light.

Response: The proposed shelter is of a design that will have as little visual impact as possible, whilst still affording the local community protection from the elements when waiting for a bus. It is a black aluminium framed, fully glazed bus shelter with a clear polycarbonate barrelled roof.

The shelter is also being sited as close to the boundary between numbers 9 and 10 Foster Terrace as possible to lessen its impact. There is no other suitable location available at this bus stop without completely re-engineering the area.

9. Objection 2:

The objector states access to their property will be restricted.

Response: A survey was carried out to ascertain if it was possible to provide a bus shelter at the bus stop without compromising safety or creating access issues. The results of the survey have shown that a shelter can be provided without contravening any access or DDA guidelines.

10. Objection 3:

The objector feels the provision of a bus shelter will devalue their house.

Response: Claims of devaluation of a property are unsubstantiated. The provision of a bus shelter will be seen as a valuable asset for a bus user.

11. Objection 4:

The Objector states the proposed bus shelter is the only one directly outside a residential location in Croxdale.

Response: Many bus shelters throughout the county are situated outside of residential households, the bus shelter immediately before the proposed on this route (4 Rogerson Terrace, Croxdale) is one such shelter.

12. Objection 5:

The objector has questioned the need for a bus shelter.

Response: A bus shelter has been proposed at this particular stop as a result of requests made to the Local Members by local residents.

The bus operator has confirmed that the bus stop is used quite frequently.

The provision of a bus shelter enhances the waiting environment for passengers and encourages the use of public transport.

Recommendations and reasons

13. It is **RECOMMENDED** that

14. The Committee endorses the proposal to set aside the objections and proceed with the installation of the bus shelter.

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance

The scheme to be funded from the Local Transport Plan Bus Stop Infrastructure Budget.

Staffing

None

Risk

Decision is such that a full risk assessment is not required. Any risk is detailed within the report.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

The shelter will improve the waiting environment for all intending passengers.

Accommodation

None

Crime and Disorder

While some bus shelters can attract anti social behaviour, the proposed bus shelter is designed in such a way to discourage such issues.

Human Rights

None

Consultation

As detailed in the report

Procurement

The shelter will be provided under an existing contract for bus shelter provision secured under the County Councils procurement procedure.

Disability Issues

The design of the shelter is as such that it will conform to DDA requirements where applicable.

Legal Implications

None

Appendix 2:

Photographs

- Ph1 – Existing area at Foster Terrace, Croxdale (A)
- Ph2 – Existing area at Foster Terrace, Croxdale (B)
- Ph3 – Existing area at Foster Terrace, Croxdale (C)
- Ph4 – Existing bus shelter at Rogerson Terrace, Croxdale
- Ph5 – Shelter Style/Type proposed for Foster Terrace, Croxdale

Plans

- PL1 – Detail Plan showing proposed location of the bus shelter