
REPORT TO:	ENVIRONMENTAL AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM: 11
DATE OF MEETING:	30 JANUARY, 2002	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE	OPEN PARAGRAPH NO:
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	RICHARD GROVES (EXTN. 5738)	DOC:
SUBJECT:	PROVISION OF NEW BUS SHELTERS – SWADLINCOTE BUS STATION	REF: c:/myfiles/richard/ committees/ES2
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	SWADLINCOTE	TERMS OF REFERENCE: ES 15

1.0 Recommendations

1.1 That the Council:

(i) accept the County Council's proposal to replace the existing bus shelters at Swadlincote bus station with shelters of the type shown at Annexe A of this report.

(ii) accept ownership and responsibility for the cleaning and maintenance of the replacement bus shelters to the specification set by the County Council

(iii) request that Finance and Management Committee consider allocation of the necessary resources to meet the cleaning and maintenance requirements set by the County Council as a late growth item for the 2003/04 budget.

2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 To obtain a member resolution concerning a proposal by Derbyshire County Council to replace the five existing bus shelters at Swadlincote bus station.

3.0 Detail

3.1 Derbyshire County Council has identified funding to replace the existing bus shelters at Swadlincote bus station within the current financial year (2002/03). The County Council considers that the shelters have reached the end of their design life and that their replacement would assist in the drive to achieve a modal shift away from private car use towards public transport in accordance with the Derbyshire Local Transport Plan and the Greater Burton and Swadlincote Public Transport Partnership Agreement, to which this Council is committed (Planning and Economic Development Committee, 1 July, 1999, minute PED/5 refers).

3.2 Members will recall that previous enhancements to the bus station were reported to Planning and Economic Development Committee on 16 December, 1999 (minute PED/57 refers) and completed by the County Council in March, 2000. These comprised works to enhance pedestrian safety and convenience together with the provision of new signage. The replacement of the shelters would form the next stage of this modernisation process.

- 3.3 The shelters are constructed of stainless steel with a brushed finish and are fitted with seating. The design incorporates a mid-rail thus minimising the size of the panes of glass and therefore the cost of repairs. The panes are also of a standard size thereby ensuring the wide availability of replacement stock, allowing repairs to be carried out quickly. The end panels would be designed to allow the display of information both within and outside the shelters and would be used to show the bus routes and destinations served by each stop. The shelters would also contain smaller panels for the display of detailed bus timetable information. The photograph reproduced at Annexe A show the design of the new shelters, but with a painted frame and without the proposed mid-rail.
- 3.4 In addition to the shelters a new information panel would be provided on the paved area in front of Swadlincote Library, constructed of materials designed to complement the new bus shelters.
- 3.5 The proposed layout would closely resemble the existing arrangement, allowing for ease of access by pedestrians, including people with disabilities.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 The total capital cost of replacing the bus shelters and providing the free standing information panel, estimated at around £45,000, would be met by Derbyshire County Council through the Local Transport Plan. It would be necessary to increase the frequency of cleansing of the bus shelters slightly to meet the requirements set by the County Council. This would require an additional £700 per annum to be allocated within budgets, commencing in 2003/04. Maintenance costs for the new shelters may rise slightly in that they would be constructed of glass, rather than polycarbonate, panels. These are more expensive to replace when vandalised. However, additional funds would be sought in future if these costs could not be contained within the existing budget.
- 4.2 The District Council would be responsible for maintaining and updating the information on bus service numbers and destinations, to be displayed on the end panels, and the information to be displayed on the free-standing board. This would represent a minor cost and could be absorbed within existing resources. Maintenance of timetable displays would be the responsibility of the bus service operators.

5.0 Corporate Implications

- 5.1 The proposal would assist in achieving the following Corporate Key Aims:

- (i) to safeguard and enhance the natural and built environment
- (ii) to promote the health and welfare of all sections of the community, including access to leisure and cultural activities

6.0 Community Implications

- 6.1 The proposal would improve the appearance and utility of the bus station thereby enhancing both the experience of bus passengers and the overall attractiveness of the town centre environment. Improvements to the bus service contribute toward efforts to encourage the use of public transport and particularly benefit those lacking access to a private motor vehicle.

7.0 **Conclusions**

7.1 The replacement of the bus shelters would be of significant local benefit, as described in this report. The fact that the cost of buying and installing the shelters would be met entirely by the County Council is considered to justify the additional revenue expenditure required to meet the County Council's cleaning and maintenance standards.

8.0 **Background Papers**

"Derbyshire Local Transport Plan"

Derbyshire County Council, 2000

"Greater Burton and Swadlincote
Public Transport Partnership Bus
Quality and Infrastructure
Agreement"

Arriva Midlands North, Derbyshire
County Council, East Staffordshire
Borough Council, South Derbyshire
District Council, Staffordshire County
Council, 2001

