

Report to the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport
Report submitted by: Interim Executive Director for Environment
Date: 11 November 2013

Part I

Electoral Division affected:
Chorley South

Proposed Bus-stop Clearway, Pilling Lane, Chorley
(Appendix 'A' refers)

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Executive Summary

Parked vehicles have been observed preventing bus passengers from boarding and alighting buses safely at an existing bus-stop on Pilling Lane, Chorley. Local residents living in the proximity of the bus-stop have been informally consulted and a Site Notice has been formally placed on site inviting comments on a proposed Bus-Stop Clearway (7am-7pm, Monday-Saturday). Several objections have been received.

Recommendation

The Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport is asked to approve the proposed Bus-Stop Clearway as indicated by the drawing in Appendix 'A' and as described in this report.

Background and Advice

Bus operators have enquired if parking in the vicinity of the existing bus-stop outside properties number 176 & 178 Pilling Lane could be prevented to assist the safe passage of buses, and allow passengers to get on and get off safely. Following site inspections which identified several vehicles being parked at the bus-stop occupying the space required for a bus to stop at the bus-stop adjacent to the kerbs. To address this problem, a proposal was made to introduce a Bus-Stop Clearway for this bus-stop.

Consultations

Residents living in the vicinity of the bus-stop were informally consulted with a letter and a plan showing the location, extent and restriction period of the proposed Bus-Stop Clearway during May 2013. Subsequently, in June, a site notice containing such information was also displayed on site. The County Councillor for the area has expressed support for the scheme. Several objections have been received as a

result of the consultation. The main grounds for objection and Lancashire County Council's response to these are set out below:

Objection: The bus-stop is too close to the roundabout at the junction with Carr Lane and it compromises road safety for road users, in particular bus passengers who have got off the bus and been knocked down by vehicles squeezing past the bus. The bus-stop will also cause congestion.

Response: It is an existing bus-stop and has been for a number of years. The new Bus Clearway would help improve bus services and road safety for bus passengers at this bus-stop. The Police have recorded no injury accidents in the last 5 years in the vicinity of the bus-stop. The proposed Bus-Stop Clearway would enable buses to park adjacent to the kerb rather than next to parked vehicles and cause less congestion than is currently the case.

Objection: The bus-stop blocks sightlines for drivers leaving the adjacent driveway.

Response: This is a well established bus-stop and there are no recorded injury accidents at this location. The proposed Bus-Stop Clearway would enable buses to park adjacent to the kerb rather than next to parked vehicles, the presence of which may in themselves create difficulties for drivers exiting the adjacent driveway. It is recognised that drivers exiting the adjacent driveway may have to wait for short periods of time whilst buses are at the stop, to ensure they have good visibility before exiting.

Objection: The proposal would make parking in the area worse, and inconvenience people with no off-road parking facilities.

Response: The proposed Bus-Stop Clearway is 12 metres in length and would displace 2 to 3 parked vehicles. With an abundant availability of unrestricted kerbside parking in the vicinity on Pilling Lane and many properties on Pilling Lane having off-road parking facilities, the impact of the proposal on the parking for local residents is not considered to be significant.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

If the Bus-Stop Clearway is not introduced, bus passengers' safety and convenience, especially wheel-chair users and parents with prams would continue to be in jeopardy as they would not be able to access the bus or do so safely with vehicles parking at the bus-stop.

Financial

The cost of the proposals will be £500 and will be funded from the Signs & Lines Revenue Budget for Chorley.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Directorate/Tel
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Nil.

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A.