CAB2208(TP) FOR DECISION WARD(S): TOWN

CABINET (TRAFFIC AND PARKING) COMMITTEE

<u>18 July 2011</u>

BUS STOPS/SHELTER ST GEORGES STREET WINCHESTER

REPORT OF HEAD OF ACCESS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Contact Officer: Andy Hickman Tel No: 01962 848105

RECENT REFERENCES:

None.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report sets out the results of a recent consultation regarding bus stops/shelter in St Georges Street following a request from JoJo Maman Bebe and the Winchester Photo Shop in St Georges to relocate the bus stop outside of these premises.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1 That the committee considers the options set out in the report.

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REPORT OF HEAD OF ACESS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

DETAIL:

- 1 Introduction
- 1.1 This report sets out the results of a recent consultation regarding bus stops/shelter in St Georges Street following a request from JoJo Maman Bebe and the Winchester Photo Shop in St Georges to relocate the bus stop away from outside of these premises.
- 1.2 The bus stop/ shelter outside of JoJo Maman Bebe is used by 14 scheduled bus services. This creates large queues of people waiting for buses and consequently the proprietors of both JoJo Maman Bebe and the Winchester Photo Shop has requested that the bus stop/shelter be relocated away from their shop entrances.
- 1.3 The only one other location that the bus stop could be relocated to would be to the rear of Brooks Court/ Marks and Spencer's. This area is used by delivery lorries serving Marks and Spencer's and includes the entrance to 13 properties/ flats in Brooks Court. It is also used for other delivery vehicles and by Dial a Ride buses.
- 1.4 This section of St Georges Street including the area in front of Sainsbury's is very heavily used by pedestrians, taxis, buses and delivery vehicles and is very finely balanced in terms of how it all works without causing severe congestion. The Bus stops / shelters outside of Sainsbury's are used by another 4 bus services including the park and ride buses which generates between 13 and 17 buses an hour. Consideration has been given to locating an additional bus shelter in this location, or moving more services to this stop from the one outside JoJo Maman Bebe, but it is felt that this would cause more backing up of buses (as buses cannot overtake at this location if a bus is already parked at the bus stop) which would block pedestrian access to the High Street and cause unacceptable delays to scheduled bus services.
- 1.5 In recognition that this is a difficult issue to resolve, it was decided to consult effected residents and shops/businesses on a proposal to add an additional bus stop/ shelter near to the entrance to Brook Court as shown on the plan accompanying this report. In discussion with Stagecoach buses it is felt that introducing an additional stop, whilst leaving the existing bus stop outside JoJo Maman Bebe in place, would help to spread the load of passengers, as the 14 scheduled services could be split evenly between the existing stop and

the proposed new stop thus reducing queuing outside of JoJo Maman Bebe and the Winchester Photo Shop. This proposal is not supported by either of these businesses as they would prefer to not have a bus stop at all outside of their shops.

- 1.6 As a result of the consultation on the above proposal, two representations were received from residents of Brook Court, both not in favour of the proposal. A response was also received from the Store Manager of Marks and Spencer's also against the proposal due to impacts on deliveries. These responses are summarised in Appendix 1. Some photographs showing delivery vehicles and buses in this part of St Georges Street are contained in Appendix 2.
- 1.7 In view of the issues set out in this report and the results of the consultation relating to the provision of an additional bus stop in St Georges Street, it is believed that there are 2 possible options as set out below:
 - Do nothing and therefore leavening the current arrangements as they are;
 - Add an additional bus stop as shown on the plan accompanying this report and monitor its effects. The exact location will be determined to minimise impacts as far as possible. This would help to spread the load of queuing passengers which should provide some benefit to JoJo Maman Bebe and the Winchester Photo Shop, but it is acknowledged that this will not satisfy those businesses fully. In addition, it may impact on the residents of Brook Court and deliveries to Marks and Spencer's.
- 1.8 It should be noted that should the Silverhill redevelopment proposal proceed that buses would be rerouted away from this part of St Georges Street as part of the plan to relocate Winchester Bus Station.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

- 2 <u>SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND CHANGE PLANS</u> (RELEVANCE TO):
- 2.1 This proposal relates to safe and secure communities.
- 3 **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**:
- 3.1 Funding has been secured from Hampshire County Council to provide an additional bus stop/shelter should that option be decided upon.
- 4 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES
- 4.1 There are risks that the additional bus stop will impact on the delivery area to the rear of Marks and Spencer's thus resulting in buses having to stop in the middle of St Georges Street to allow passengers to board/ alight.

- 4.2 The additional stop may cause noise nuisance and possible access issues to residents of Brook Court.
- 4.3 Making no changes to the current arrangements will mean that there will be no benefit/ relief to JoJo Maman Bebe or the Winchester Photo Shop.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None

APPENDICES:

- 1. Summary Table Responses to consultation.
- 2. Photographs showing loading and bus parking in St Georges Street
- 3. Plan of proposals

Traffic and Parking

Bus Shelter – St Georges Street

Respondent	Comment
Resident of Brooks Court, St Georges Street	Concerns about the proposed location of the new bus stop/shelter. At present our door is often blocked by prams and people waiting for the bus as people spread themselves out. The plans show that the new bus stop will completely cover our front door, this is not an adequate solution it which will magnify the situation. The best solution would be to extend the bus stop opposite Sainsbury's.
Store Manager, Marks and Spencer	Wishes to oppose the siting of the new bus stop/shelter on the grounds of Health and Safety. Loading bay used every day by a large artic delivering goods and have a van that runs back and forward all day from 7am – 8pm which also has to unload. This would mean people would have to stand in front on the van to see the bus coming.
Manager, Winchester Photo	The bus stop/shelter needs to go from outside our shops, it causes mayhem and pollution. Please re-consider and place two shelters outside the back of Superdrug.
Store Manager, JoJo Maman Bebe	As you have agreed to a second bus stop/shelter then why can you not build a double stop by number 79. We have to put up with smoke as the public do not adhere to the no smoking policy and they stand and block our doorways which is our only fire escape.
Resident of Brooks Court, St Georges Street	Concerned about the erection of the additional bus stop. Putting another bus stop in would make situation worse. Already affected by noise from those at the bus stops and from the busses. I spend the first half an hour at home after work going downstairs to ask people to stop leaning on the buzzer for the flat. Think about this placement and style of the sop for my quality of living.







