

**SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL
FINANCE COMMITTEE
5 JUNE 2023**

Officer: Stuart Farmer – Projects Manager

Further Bus Shelter Replacement

Purpose of Report

- (i) To receive an update following a recent review of the current bus shelters;
- (ii) To consider an approach to retro-fitting Timetabling Noticeboards;
- (iii) To consider Phase 2 of Bus Shelter Replacement .

1. Background

Following the successful installation of 36 bus shelters across the town during the early part of 2023, a further programme of replacements has been requested. The replacement shelters have been well received by the general public, with the only additional request being the addition of display cases for timetables within them. The initial programme concentrated on the main arterial routes into the town centre. Whilst this phase could be similar, some estate shelters have been identified as requiring changing.

2. Benefits of replacements.

As was discussed following the initial tender process for refurbishing the existing shelters, warranties and guarantees were only available for replacements and not refurbishing. The structures of new shelters are guaranteed for 20 years when left as polished steel, to powder coat the structures reduces the guarantee to 5 years due to rust of degrading not being visible. This approach of leaving polished steel is being reflected in both the Town Council's footway lighting replacements and also Shropshire Council's highway lighting replacement programme.

3. Estimated Costings for replacement shelters

The Town Council would wish to ensure that the same type of bus-shelters are used in the phase 2 programme, therefore it is not intended to undertake a further tender process, relying on the existing due diligence undertaken during the phase 1 programme.

Having contacted the supplier of the previous phase of replacements updated costs for shelters compatible with sedum roofs have returned at £5,804.00 per shelter. It is worth noting that not all locations are compatible with sedum roofs; reasons for this will include, footpaths not being wide enough for wind break end or trees or hedges overhanging the shelter. Should the locations not be compatible the costs will reduce. At present these costs are an estimate and based on a one-off purchase; further discounts could be available should a bulk order be made similar to the last phase.

This price also includes the installation of display cases that were not included in the previous phase. This has come about following concerns from users regarding the lack of information available at the shelters.

There are some locations that have cases already mounted to other street furniture items such as lamp columns or real time indicators, where these are not required it will result in a further small saving.

4. Design options

Following the installation of the previous phase, it appears that current design of the shelters has been well received and we would recommend keeping to the same design and supplier for the remaining shelter. The previous tender process enabled the council to conduct an extremely thorough examination of available products as well as comparing warranties and guarantees to ensure value for money is achieved.

5. Locations Identified

The following locations have been identified for the next phase of replacements, this has either come from councillor requests or areas deemed to be of greatest need.

Bank Farm Road X 2
Whitecroft Road
White Hart
Meadow Farm Drive X 2
Moston Road X2
Cophthorne Road X2
Mytton Oak Road X3
Sultan Road
New Park Road
Alexander Avenue
Meole Crescent
Frankwell Island

Site visits with the suppliers will need to take place to establish the most applicable shelter be it a sedum compatible or a standard cantilever. Once these visits have been conducted it may be possible to add further shelters should funding allow.

6. Installation of Display Cases in Existing New Shelters

Display cases for timetables were not included in the initial phase of replacements, however, since installation it has become apparent that these are a vital source of information for bus users. A survey has been carried out of the shelters to understand where cases are required as some shelters have them attached to existing real time poles of lamp columns. 29 shelters are missing a case, an initial cost for these to be added to them has been sourced from the supplier at £6,155.25 to supply and install these. This figure may reduce by purchasing in bulk as they have an installation charge attached to each currently. It is felt that the supplier needs to install these cases to ensure that the long warranties sourced are not affected by the installations. Once these cases have been installed responsibility for keeping them up to date will lie with Shropshire Council and the bus service providers, no further costs will fall to Shrewsbury Town Council.

7. Phase 2 Budget

The RFO has already reported that an provisional reserve of £150k has been factored from the 2022/23 end of year accounts.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (i) That the report be noted;
- (ii) That £150K Budget be allocated for Phase 2 replacement of shelters;
- (iii) That £6,155.25 Budget be allocated to install display cases in existing shelters;
- (iv) That Officers continue to work with the existing supplier.