BUS SHELTER PROGRAMME (Report by Head of Environment & Transport)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Council is providing bus shelters to improve the service available to bus travellers.
- 1.2 To date a total of 35 bus shelters have been provided. Of these 30 display illuminated advertisements and all have been provided free of charge by Primesight.
- 1.3 This report seeks the approval of Cabinet to the installation of a further 24 bus shelters of which seven are 'advertising' and three 'non-advertising' shelters provided, without charge, by Primesight. The remaining 14 are to be provided by the Council and other partners. This report also complies with the resolution of the Cabinet meeting of 4th March 2004 where the release of funds was requested.

2. PROPOSED INSTALLATIONS

- 2.1 A schedule of the proposed locations for the 24 bus shelters is given at Annex A. The locations have been agreed following discussions with relevant Parish/Town Councils and with Primesight. Two councils (Brampton Parish Council and Huntingdon Town Council) are contributing to the cost of the proposed installations.
- 2.2 Typically each installation will include
 - an area of hard-standing;
 - the shelter;
 - internal lighting where ambient lighting levels are poor giving rise to concerns over the personal safety of travellers using the shelter; and
 - a raised kerb to reduce step heights to make boarding easier for travellers with mobility problems.
- 2.3 The raised kerb is a new feature not included in earlier installations. Such provision is now accepted as good practice and contributes to compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act. However, it adds some 30% to the cost of each installation.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The overall cost and funding arrangements for the provision and installation of the Council's/partners 14 shelters is given in the table which follows. The Council's costs also include the provision of raised kerbs at the 10 locations where Primesight are installing shelters without charge. There is no provision for this in the contract with Primesight which predates the adoption of the use of raised kerbs.

	£'000
Huntingdon Town Council	16
Brampton Parish Council	9
Huntingdonshire District Council	170
Total Cost	195

- 3.2 The installation costs have been arrived at by a competitive tendering exercise and it is proposed to accept the lowest tender.
- 3.3 The Council's funding for the provision/installation is assembled to reflect the contribution that the shelters will make to secure objectives in the market town transport strategies and in providing improved accessibility. This is illustrated in the following table –

MTP Ref.	Title	£'000
400	Bus Shelters Extra Provision	65
003	Accessibility Improvements	56
361	Huntingdon Market Town Transport Strategy	35
250/B	St Neots Market Town Transport Strategy	4
	Section 106 contributions to Market Town Transport Strategies	10
	Total Funding	170

3.4 The release of funds for these schemes was approved at the Cabinet meeting of 4th March 2004, with the proviso on the bus shelter scheme that further details of locations be provided.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:
 - a) note the proposal to install 24 bus shelters;
 - b) approve the release of MTP funds for the bus shelter scheme following the previous Cabinet decision as the location details have now been provided.
 - c) authorise the Head of Environment and Transport to proceed with the installation of the shelters and associated infrastructure.

Background papers

Correspondence with local councils. Correspondence with Primesight

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ANNEX A - LOCATION OF PROPOSED BUS SHELTERS

Location	Town/Village
High Street	Brampton
Miller Way	Brampton
Hinchingbrooke Park Rd	Huntingdon
St Johns Road	Huntingdon
Skeels Court, Coneygear Road	Huntingdon
Thongsley School (W) Coneygear Road	Huntingdon
Thongsley School (E) Coneygear Road	Huntingdon
Medway (N), Coneygear Road	Huntingdon
Medway (S), Coneygear Road	Huntingdon
Sallowbush Road	Huntingdon
Buttsgrove Way	Huntingdon
Main Street(E)	Hartford
Main Street(W)	Hartford
School Lane	Alconbury
Great North Road	Alconbury Weston
B1040	Bury
Ramsey Road	Warboys
Berkley Street	Eynesbury
Ramsey Road	St Ives
Hill Rise	St Ives
Clock Tower, High Street	Fenstanton
High Street (E)	Fenstanton
High Street (W)	Fenstanton
Tudor Road	Godmanchester