

HIGH LANE BENCH REQUEST

Report of the Corporate Director of Place Management & Regeneration

1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To request the use of delegated ward budget to install two replacement benches on Buxton Road in High Lane. One opposite the Royal Oak Hotel and one outside High Lane Pharmacy.

2. INFORMATION

- 2.1 The High Lane Residents Association approached the Neighbourhoods Team in relation to two benches in High Lane. Bench 1: Buxton Rd, High Lane: Opposite the Royal Oak Hotel. Bench 2: Buxton Road, High Lane: Outside High Lane Pharmacy and Medical Centre (near Pedestrian Crossing).
- 2.2 They are both in a poor state of repair and need either removing or replacing. Consultation with the Highways Team determined that they were supportive of the proposal for the two benches being replaced.
- 2.3 Bench 1 sits on a grass verge behind a bus stop that is not registered as being owned or occupied by anyone, the land isn't adopted and therefore is not maintained by the Council.
- 2.4 As Bench 1 is near to residential properties we consulted with the neighbouring properties. We received feedback from four residents. Three were supportive in principle and we received one objection which raised that they would prefer the bench to be removed as in their opinion no one uses it, only a few children late at night.
- 2.5 Bench 2 sits on what is believed to be private landscaped land adjacent to the pedestrian highway (pavement). This isn't in Council ownership nor adopted and the land therefore is not maintained by the Council. The High Lane Residents Association will therefore be advised that permission from the land owner will need to be secured ahead of any hardstanding and bench installation works taking place in this location.

3. MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 A Black Massey and Harris standard all steel bench will be required for a number of reasons. There is currently no Highways maintenance budget for benches. This is a low maintenance option which is more durable than wood. This bench fits with the Highways standard details and motifs within the District Centres.
- 3.2 There is currently £20,050 in the Marple North Delegated Ward Budget.
- 3.3 There is currently £12,440 available in the Marple South Delegated Ward Budget.

4. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 That the Committee supports the supply and installation of two replacement benches on the Buxton Road in High Lane (opposite the Royal Oak Hotel and near to High Lane Pharmacy). These costs can be funded from the Ward budget if so determined by the Marple Area Committee. It is recommended this is approved by the Committee and funding taken from the Marple South Area Delegated budget for highway maintenance and local initiatives.
- 4.2 Committee authorises the use of delegated ward budget to a total of £2400 (£1200 per bench) to supply two Black Massey and Harris standard all steel benches and install the replacement benches on new hard bases.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Location maps and photos.

Anyone requiring further information should contact Jonathan Headlam on telephone number Tel: 0161 474 3142 or alternatively email jonathan.headlam@stockport.gov.uk