

SAFETY AND SECURITY AT TRAMSTOPS IN BASFORD

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR, NET

1. SUMMARY OF ISSUES

The report considers the current status of actions agreed at a site meeting held in April 2009 to discuss matters of safety and security at tramstops in Basford.

2. RECOMMENDATION

It is RECOMMENDED that the Committee notes the contents of the report.

3. SITE MEETING AND ACTION PLAN

- 3.1. A site meeting was held at the tramstops at Basford, David Lane and Highbury Vale on 28th April 2009 to discuss issues of safety and security both at the tramstops and on their approaches. The meeting, which was requested by City Councillor Newton, was attended by City Council Officers representing the NET Project, the Highway Authority, and the Area Neighbourhood Management Team together with a local Police Constable.

The meeting had been called following an incident in which a female who had alighted from a tram late at night at Basford was then attacked in a street away from the tramstop. Representations have also been received by Councillor Newton from some local residents regarding a perceived vulnerability when accessing the tramstops.

- 3.2. The possible provision of additional measures such as enhanced CCTV coverage, improved standards of lighting and the installation of footbridge mirrors were discussed at the meeting and the agreed actions, together with their current status, are reported at Appendix A. The actions have been fully considered by the appropriate parties, including the Concessionaire for NET Line One (Arrow Light Rail), and their operations and maintenance contractor (Nottingham Tram Consortium (NTC)).
- 3.3. As a result of the meeting, the City Council has improved visibility at Lauriston Drive Footbridge by cutting back vegetation and has increased the effectiveness of the street lighting on Nottingham Road on the approach to Basford Tramstop by the installation of outreach brackets to the existing columns. Other Council maintained lighting will be improved as part of the proposed Private Finance Initiative street lighting contract which is expected to be signed later this year.

It has however been concluded by the police that there is insufficient evidence to justify the provision of additional CCTV coverage on the street network surrounding the tramstops and Arrow and NTC consider that existing CCTV provision is sufficient to ensure full coverage of the tram stops. The use of mirrors at Basford Footbridge is considered to be inappropriate due to significant potential maintenance costs.

- 3.4. Arrow and NTC take issues of safety and security very seriously. The tram system generally has many features designed-in to protect the safety and security of its users and has a good safety record. The passenger help points, public address system and CCTV cameras on the platforms provide a direct link between passengers and the NET control room. All the trams have CCTV installed and the presence of conductors increases the level of safety and security for passengers; should a potential incident arise, roving safety staff can immediately be deployed to the scene.

In addition, NTC has a telephone "hotline" to the police which can be used by tram operating staff to report any serious incidents that are observed. NTC, which has a good working relationship with the police, is a member of Respect for Transport and, as such, contributes financially to the appointment of a police officer based at the tram depot who is dedicated to overseeing and co-ordinating issues relating to crime and security on the public transport system.

4. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

None.

5. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

None.

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BASFORD TRAM STOP ACTION PLAN UPDATE – DEC 2009

TRAM STOP	ACTION	ORGANISATION	UPDATE
1. Basford tram footbridge	Possible CCTV	NCC with support from Police	Community safety audit has ascertained that, based on the number of reported incidents and offences, criteria for CCTV is not met.
	Installation of mirrors on footbridge to increase visibility for users	NCC / NET	Considered to be high maintenance risk; tram operator (NTC) is unwilling to take on responsibility.
	Additional lighting on Nottingham Road / Lincoln Street	NCC	Works to add 1m outreach brackets on all the columns to throw more light are completed.
2. David Lane	CCTV	NCC with support from Police	Community safety audit has ascertained that, based on the number of reported incidents and offences, criteria for CCTV is not met.
3. Highbury Vale	Additional CCTV camera on the tram platform	NET	NTC considers that current coverage is sufficient.
	Upgrade of main CCTV camera (overlooking the bridge) to a 360 degree camera	NET	This camera already has ability to pan 360 degrees.
	CCTV cameras to be domed so perpetrators cannot see the direction of the camera	NET	Design of existing cameras precludes doming. NTC does not consider that replacement of cameras can be justified.
	Cut back trees / foliage next to the footbridge to create more visibility	NCC	Completed.
	Additional lighting Lauriston Drive footbridge	NCC	Levels of lighting have been assessed. Upgrade to be included within forthcoming PFI lighting contract.