Dear Sir

BUS SHELTERS AND BUS STOP SIGNS ON TRUNK ROADS

1. It has been the Department's practice, when giving consent to the erection of bus shelters on trunk roads, to include conditions to enable the shelter to be subsequently removed on request by the Department and at the expense of the owner of the shelter.

2. Henceforth the condition about removal on request will continue to be included but the requirement that removal should be at the owner's expense will not apply to removal necessitated by road works. When the Department has consented to the placing of a shelter in a particular location it will normally be possible, so far as the Department is concerned and so long as it is properly maintained, for it to be left at that spot indefinitely unless a need arises for road works which necessitates the moving of the shelter. In that event the Department will accept as a charge against the road scheme the cost of moving the shelter to a new site nearby or, if the construction of the shelter precludes ready resiting, the demolition of it and the provision of an equivalent one on the new site. If the owner wishes to take the opportunity to provide a shelter of better standard it will of course be the owner's responsibility to pay the difference in cost.

3. The Department's approach as outlined in the previous paragraph will in future apply to all bus shelters on trunk roads, including existing ones for the removal of which the owner could be required to pay by operation of the condition attached to a consent given in the past.

4. Where the Department requires a bus stop sign on a trunk road to be relocated in order that road works can be carried out the cost of that resiting also can be charged against the road scheme, subject again to any betterment being paid for by the owner of the sign.

5. Removal of bus shelters and bus stop signs will continue to be at the owner's expense where the removal is requested on the grounds that the shelter or bus stop sign has been allowed to fall into such a state of disrepair that it might cause damage or injury, and the terms of the consent for a bus shelter or bus stop sign will require the owner to maintain the structure properly.

6. As in the past the owners of bus shelters, erected otherwise than in pursuance of statutory powers, and of bus stop signs will be required to indemnify the Department against claims from third parties for any injury or damage caused by these structures.
7. Where bus shelters or bus stop signs are resited for whatever reason, the Department will enter into new agreements with their owners, on such of the conditions mentioned above as are appropriate.

Yours faithfully

T E RADICE
Assistant Secretary
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