

**BLYTH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Environment Committee**  
**Thursday 27 February 2025**  
**Bus Shelter Report**

**Recommendations**

**The Committee note to agree the application for funding to improve bus shelter provision within Blyth.**

Ward

All wards

Risk Management

Provision has been made in the 2025/26 Budget for new shelters.

Crime Prevention

No crime prevention implications

Objective

To give residents and visitors who use public transport some protection from the elements while waiting for local bus services.

Report

Northumberland County Council (NCC) have been allocated funding from the North East Combined Authority to improve bus shelter provision across Northumberland. Parish and Town Council's were invited to apply for this funding with the deadline for applications being Friday 31 January 2025.

Blyth Town Council has responsibility for 86 bus shelters across the town, likely one of the largest responsibilities in Northumberland and is therefore eligible for support.

Given the funding application deadline there was little opportunity for consultation with members before an application could be submitted and an Officer assessment took place. Ten sites were identified for improvement and the submitted application proposes five new shelters (at existing bus stops) and five new shelters to replace aging shelters. In discussion with NCC regarding the speed at which the application was submitted there is, however, a degree of flexibility on some of the identified locations if the funding bid was successful.

The estimated cost for the works is £105,000 which includes removal of the five existing shelters and any associated road traffic management

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costs as part of the works. The application submitted to NCC is for £95,000 towards the cost of this work and if successful the Town Council has made a commitment to fund the outstanding £10,000 balance for which there is budget provision. A decision on the funding will hopefully be received in coming weeks. This is the first round of funding with likely further opportunities to apply for funding in the future.

If the grant application was successful, it would enhance further bus shelter provision and support public transport usage in the town along with the Council's own maintenance and cleansing programmes.

Again, if successful, a further report would be brought to the Environment Committee for a decision on final locations.

**Stephen Humphrey**  
**Principal Officer**

**17 February 2025**