



Bishop Auckland Town Council

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Town Clerk: Sarah Harris

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FAO: Planning Department
Durham County Council

Your Ref: [DM/23/01344/FPA](#)

Proposal: Demolition of bus station buildings and structures and erection of replacement bus station including car park

Whilst the Town Council is in support of investment and development within Bishop Auckland, in line with National Planning Policy statements, such as:

- NPPF Part 6 Building a Strong, Competitive Economy
- NPPF Part 7 Ensuring the vitality of town centres
- NPPF Part 9 Promoting Sustainable Transport

County Durham Plan Policies such as:

- Policy 9 – Retail Hierarchy and Town Centre Development
- Policy 21 Delivering Sustainable Transport
- Policy 31 Amenity and Pollution

However, Council Members do have some concerns regarding the application, in relation to

- Additional vehicles that the surface level car park will accommodate, and the associated noise to neighbouring residents, and the impact of the pollution which this may bring.
- The impact of those on Tenters Street - as the buses will access the bus station from Tenters Street rather than as they do now via the roundabout next to Sadler House. This could cause significant congestion on the A689, as there has been no proposals for a roundabout or improvement works to the junction.
- The application also does not include any proposed improvements to pedestrian access to Fore Bondgate and Finkle Street, at the bottom of Clayton Street.
- Another key concern is that despite the proposals for an improved bus station, bus operators have again announced more cuts to public bus services, which significantly impacts the footfall of the town, and the access which residents have to amenities available. Is this something which Durham County Council is looking to address with operators? As

Therefore, the Council wishes for the authority to consider the concerns raised and confirm to the council how it plans to mitigate the concerns raised.

Kindest regards

Sarah Harris
Town Clerk