



Ashfield Council

## MEMO

**TO:** Shakeeb Mushtaq  
**FROM:** James Brocklebank  
**DATE:** 12/8/15  
**SUBJECT:** 137 Victoria Ave DA 2015.8.1 – response to letter from BBC Consulting Planners dated 11/8/15

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I have read the letter from BBC Consulting Planners dated 11 August in which they request, in part, that draft condition H(2) – Shuttle Bus Services be amended.

The condition I requested reads as follows:

- That a courtesy shuttle bus service be provided and operated at full cost to the developer to service the needs of clients who no longer drive or who no longer wish to drive. Such service to be capable of operating at a frequency of no less than 15 mins between the site and Ashfield station and capable of meeting the maximum passenger demand generated by the site. This may require more than one bus.

BBC Planners have proposed that it be amended to read

- A courtesy shuttle bus shall be provided by the developer and operated by the Village to service the needs of residents to travel to the local shopping centres and train station. The frequency will be determined by the passenger demand generated by the site.

The intent of the wording of my condition was to ensure that the service operated on a frequent basis and that the bus did not sit idle making only an occasional trip to the shops or station. To be successful as a shuttle service the bus needs to operate on a frequent and reliable basis preferably with a set timetable.

BBC planners advise that residents prefer public bus transport. This may well be the case, but it is suggested that perhaps the reason for this is that the existing shuttle service is poor. If a free regular loop service was established which circulated through the site picking up at a number of points before heading off to Ashfield and/or Summer Hill shopping villages and stations it is considered that such service would be preferred by most residents to a public bus service which they would need to walk some distance to access and have to pay to use.

The Village Manager of Cardinal Freeman Village has recently written to Council requesting the provision of pedestrian crossings on Victoria St and Queen Street to facilitate safe crossings of those roads to aid access to Summer Hill shops and adjacent parkland. If a reliable and regular shuttle bus service operated from the village encompassing a route which included those facilities the above concerns may be addressed.

There is concern that the amendment to the condition proposed by BBC planners reduces the value of the service by providing no onus on the village management to generate demand for the service or provide any minimum level of service. If any change to the wording is to be considered it is suggested that the following wording may be more appropriate.



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- That a courtesy shuttle bus service be provided and operated at full cost to the developer to service the needs of clients who no longer drive or who no longer wish to drive. Such service to be capable of operating at a frequency of no less than 15 mins between the site, Ashfield and/or Summer Hill shops/station and capable of meeting the maximum passenger demand generated by the site. This may require more than one bus. The Cardinal Freeman Village Management shall be required to promote the service and develop a published regular schedule of trips in consultation with residents to ensure the service meets residents local travel needs and operates at suitable times and frequencies.

Regards

James Brocklebank  
Traffic Engineer