

**TransCoCo Action Groups. Update to the Area Board.
Bus Stop Audit**

The endorsement of the Bus Audit and an undertaking to work to achieve the Stage One recommendations was a huge step forward. Since then we have been working in collaboration with officers from Wiltshire Council under the watchful eye of portfolio holder for public transport, Richard Gamble, to investigate the current picture in more depth. Two meetings have taken place with Wiltshire Council and officers are analysing the detail in the audit and identifying responsibilities. As part of this process some improvements have already been made such as removing redundant 'ghost' stops and authorising some repairs.

Bus provision under a deregulated system is difficult to manage and this lack of structure and control extends to bus stops and information about bus services. Responsibility splits in three directions namely the local authority, Town / Parish Council or the bus operator and is a result of historical decisions or whether the route is a subsidised or commercial service.

We have agreed that at the most basic level every stop should be identified by a sign and a timetable. Additional features at each stop will depend on usage and location. There are decisions yet to be made regarding publication and awareness of timetable information but there are services that we believe could be better promoted.

We are expecting that by the next Area Board meeting on 8 June we will have received an update from the Wiltshire Council and will have an opportunity to provide a verbal report on more recent progress. By then we should have the required information to start the consultation with Town and Parish Councils and be ready to make decisions as to how to promote bus services more effectively.

The Wiltshire Times have recently published a short piece about the Audit and it is interesting that some other Partnerships are now interested in the work of this audit and are considering a similar exercise.

Cycle Routes

As a counterpoint to the work involved in promoting Public Transport there is growing support for cycle routes across the Corsham area. A working group has been established to explore routes linking Rudloe with the Corsham School and Town Centre and an additional southern route linking Neston through to Corsham Primary and St Patrick's Primary School. We will provide a verbal update on progress and intentions at the Area Board meeting.