

Ban 'alighting only' bus stops in the city centre

A press release by the local group Campaign for Better Transport, Leicestershire and Rutland.

The Leicester Campaign for Better Transport is calling on Leicester City Council transport planners to ban 'Alighting Only' bus stops in the City Centre because of the disruption these cause to travellers. Instead the Leicester Campaign for Better Transport wants all the stops to be allocated to particular routes and to allow passengers to get on as well as get off at these stops.

Raising this matter at a recent Transport Task Group the proposal was supported by other groups at the meeting and by Councillors and looks to be passed by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board to the City Council Cabinet to be done.

THE LEICESTER CAMPAIGN FOR BETTER TRANSPORT SAID

"The Leicester Campaign for Better Transport wants to see this little but very important change done quickly and without months of reports and procrastination. It will be a major help to passengers who need to use more than one bus to get to their destination. It is of major importance to all those passengers who cannot walk long distances to get to their bus. But it looks like it was invented by someone sitting in a council office with a computer who never uses buses at all."

THE LEICESTER CAMPAIGN FOR BETTER TRANSPORT SAID

"There is a problem at the moment and this has been pointed out to the Council lots of times in meetings and as usual nothing gets done. Nothing gets done that is, until the new Transport Task Group gets to hear of the problem. Now the new Task Group is here it looks like it is going to be swiftly put right in a realistic length of time. The Task Group is really doing a good job if it can solve this so quickly."

THE LEICESTER CAMPAIGN FOR BETTER TRANSPORT SAID

"Removing buses from the City Centre has caused a lot of passenger disruption and lost patronage for the bus companies, particularly on some routes. Yet a vehicle-free City Centre is exactly what is now expected in all major cities and shopping centres. Further restricting bus passengers' ability to get on the buses that are there by having 'Alighting Only' bus stops, therefore makes no sense at all. It is just administrative and unnecessary."

THE LEICESTER CAMPAIGN FOR BETTER TRANSPORT SAID

"The worst example of the problem is on Charles Street, going toward the St. Margaret's Bus Station. Despite there being lots of bus stops on Charles Street, the only way to get from Charles Street itself, or in fact from the Haymarket Bus Station to the St. Margaret's Bus Station by bus, is to get on in Horsefair Street or the Railway Station or near Rutland Street – a rather long walk back along these bus routes in the wrong direction! This is Stupid."

THE LEICESTER CAMPAIGN FOR BETTER TRANSPORT SAID

“The council transport planners ought to be increasing choice for travellers, but with this silly restriction choice is reduced, passenger inconvenience increased and frustration at the council officers bizarre ideas reaches a limit. People will stop using the buses if they are not properly served, then everyone loses.”