



Reference: FOI0730

Request:

Councillor Johnston, in an answer to a public question by Mr. Mills on 17/1/19 said:

"Borough Road footbridge is also an anti-social behaviour black spot with regular reported incidents of dangerous and anti-social behaviour.

Obviously we, along with the Police try to manage this. In fact the Police installed a CCTV camera at this location last year in an attempt to capture anti-social behaviour evidence to take positive action, but unfortunately the camera was vandalised beyond repair within a few days of being installed. There have been suggestions of raising the sides of the bridge to prevent objects being thrown over or installing nets either side of the bridge to manage the anti-social behaviour, but we haven't been able to arrive at an affordable or credible solution to this issue."

1) What is the evidence of the Footbridge ITSELF being the cause of anti-social behaviour? The 2016 Options Study and 2018 Feasibility Report didn't provide such evidence.

Page 19 of the Consultation and Feasibility Report (Jan 2018) shows Police comments confirming that anti-social behaviour occurs at the bridge. This document can be viewed on the planning portal on the Council's website. North Tyneside Council holds no information or evidence that the footbridge itself is the cause of the anti-social behaviour.

2) Was the CCTV camera installed in a high enough position on a pole with downward facing spikes which would have prevented vandalism, as one might expect in an AREA where ASB has occurred?

North Tyneside Council has not installed CCTV at this location and as such holds no information in response this question.

3) What evidence is there that the affordable or credible solution referred to cannot be arrived at and what was considered? Especially as nets and/or raising sides were only part of the design mitigations the 2016 and 2018 studies above suggested.

The primary reason behind the decision to remove the bridge is its condition and the disproportionately high cost of repairing or renewing it. The anti-social behaviour problem is a secondary issue and measures to prevent / mitigate it have not been taken forward or costed given that the plan is to remove the bridge. If renewal or repair of the bridge had been a viable option then it is possible that the measures described might have been further explored as part of that work.



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4) Was enclosing the footbridge deck, as done with London Underground footbridges both old and new, considered and if so why was this unaffordable or not credible?

This was not considered for the same reasons in the response to 3 above.

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