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**Councillor Peter Curling**  
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Civic Centre  
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**Our ref:** MGLA050209-6342

**Date:** 16 MAR 2009

Dear Peter

**Re-routeing of bus service U7 – new bus stops**

Thank you for your email.

I do understand the sensitivities involved with placing bus stops on the public highway in view of people's homes. However, I think it is worth providing a little background to this proposal.

The suggestion to change route U7 arose from meetings between Transport for London and local residents chaired by John McDonnell MP in Autumn 2003. The meetings were initially intended to resolve conflict between car parking and buses at the Charville Lane terminus of routes 195 and U7. TfL has since resolved this by providing a new standing area for buses, separate from residents' parking.

During these meetings, and at an exhibition held by TfL in the Charville Community Centre in 2004, residents requested a new direct link from Charville Lane to Hayes Grapes. TfL evaluated this suggestion through its usual bus service planning framework, and established that the suggestion would provide a considerable number of households with a more attractive bus service. This is in line with TfL's Transport Duty under the GLA Act 1999, and I am sure you will agree that improved local bus services are generally to be welcomed.

The benefits of this particular proposal include:

- new direct bus link from Charville Lane to Hayes Grapes and Lombardy Retail Park
- more direct link from Charville Lane to Hillingdon Hospital and Uxbridge
- improved bus access to three schools: Mellow Lane, Abbotsfield and Swakeleys
- fewer buses will terminate and stand at Charville Lane, further addressing this issue
- 570 households in the Charville Lane area will have improved bus links
- all households in and within walking distance of Pole Hill Road, Mellow Lane West and Hewens Road gain a new bus service

