

## **Full Council – 23 November 2005**

### **Question from Mrs P Taylor**

“Whilst we appreciate that the Council has no policy on ‘A’ boards in the city, when precisely will this be prepared, given its vigorous support for a no tolerance approach whilst in opposition?”

### **Reply by Councillor Repton, Council Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation**

I am aware of the recommendation made by the Disabled People’s Advisory Committee – DPAC - and supported by the Derbyshire Association for the Blind – DAB - that this Council adopt a zero tolerance approach to the control of A boards throughout the city.

I recently considered the zero tolerance recommendation, along with feedback from local independent sector traders that adopting such an approach could have a negative impact on their trading position.

I recognised that indiscriminately placed A boards on the highway can constitute an obstruction to disabled people, particularly visually impaired people. I felt however that a more strategic approach to this and other footway obstructions should be taken. I have therefore decided to defer adopting any policy on the control of A boards until the Council had decriminalisation of parking powers. Such powers, which are likely to be available in the second half of 2006 would then allow issues around vehicles obstructing the footway, to be considered along with the placing of A boards on the highway.

The whole issue of obstructions of the highway when the Council have decriminalisation of parking powers could be progressed as an important part of the neighbourhood agenda for the city.