

MEMORANDUM

To: Development Management

From: Sustainable Transport

Ref: 22/05273

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Date: 12th September 2023

22/05273 Proposed Lidl Store at Marsh Farm Royal Wootton Bassett.

You have asked that I provide comments on the representations made by ECORWB Active travel Group.

The recommendation that the raised table crossing be constructed close to the entrance to the store from the B4042 is counter productive to active travel considerations. The location has been carefully designed and discussed internally with experienced highway officers at length. The reason for its location further into the access road is to achieve a safer location clear of turning traffic where drivers will be able to fully focus on the crossing, and give way in a safe and controlled manner. If the crossing is brought close to the entrance, and raised in the manner sought, drivers will slow and stop on the main road, there will be frequent nose-to-tail shunt accidents, driver frustration will lead to cycle and pedestrian accidents. The location as detailed on the plans a short distance into the site will be safer, more convenient and will encourage greater cycle and pedestrian use.

The TA shows that there will be higher car use of the access than cycle use as would be expected for any supermarket. The current planned location provides a good and accessible route which directly runs from the toucan crossing, enters the site, provides a safe point to cross the access road and then leads in a direct manner to the store. The CS transport policies have therefore been correctly followed in that with a traffic calmed, safely located crossing point, pedestrian and cyclist accessibility has been given the correct and higher ranking in the transport hierarchy as required by policy and the NPPF.

The existing toucan crossing is correctly located to serve the development as detailed elsewhere in the report, and a second crossing could not be supported due to crossing proximity and excessive numbers of crossings on a short section of road.

A new pedestrian refuge will be provided at a good, safe and convenient location to access the store.

The applicant does not control land to enable the suggested 3m wide path between the toucan crossing and Saffron Close. Therefore a condition or obligation to do this would be not meet the tests for either conditions or obligations.

Mark Wiltshire
Major Projects Officer
Sustainable Transport