

CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT – CLLR PHILIP WHITEHEAD

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT SERVICE

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REFERENCE: HT-13-16

PROPOSED PUFFIN CROSSING, FROME ROAD, BRADFORD ON AVON

Purpose of Report

1. To consider comments received in relation to a Wiltshire Council proposal to exercise its powers under Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to install a “PUFFIN” (Pedestrian User-Friendly Intelligent) Crossing, a form of traffic signal-controlled crossing on B3109 Frome Road, Bradford on Avon.

Relevance to the Council’s Business Plan

2. The proposed TRO meets two priorities of the Council’s Business Plan.
 - Outcome 2 – People in Wiltshire work together to solve problems locally and participate in decisions that affect them.
 - Outcome 6 – People are as protected from harm as possible and feel safe.

Background

3. Fitzmaurice Primary School applied to the Taking Action on School Journeys Challenge fund in 2013 to request a study be undertaken to address concerns relating to the journey to and from school for its pupils. The application was successful and a study was undertaken in 2014.
4. A report was prepared outlining the concerns of the school, the data collected (pedestrian and vehicle surveys, collision data, etc.) and recommendations for engineering measures that could be taken to improve the journey to and from school for pupils who currently walk and also encourage more pupils to walk to school.
5. One of the recommendations made was to provide a formal crossing on Frome Road, Bradford on Avon. The criteria for a formal crossing were met and a feasible location was determined, taking into consideration the engineering and safety constraints alongside the pedestrian desire line.

Summary of the Proposals

6. The proposals are:
 - (i) To install a PUFFIN crossing and associated controlled zone (shown by zig-zag markings) on B3109 Frome Road at a point approximately 136 metres south of the junction of Frome Road and Pound Lane. This is outside of TT Cycles and the Canal Tavern.
 - (ii) To amend the county of Wiltshire (Bradford on Avon) (prohibition and restriction of waiting, taxi rank clearways and on street parking) Consolidation Order 2010 (amendment No.6) Order 2016 to remove existing parking *Monday to Saturday*

8am-6pm Resident Permit Holders or 2 hours No return within 2 hours on the east side of B3109 Frome Road from a point 30 metres north of its junction with Kennet Gardens for a distance of 11 metres in a northerly direction in order to accommodate the proposed crossing.

7. A proposal plan is included at **Appendix 1**.

Main Considerations for the Council

8. To consider the comments received during the consultation period. Details of those who commented are provided in **Appendix 2**. A summary of the issues raised relating to the proposal and officer comments are included in **Appendix 3**.

Safeguarding Implications

9. There is no risk to the Council as a result of these proposals.

Public Health Implications

10. There are none with this proposal.

Corporate Procurement Implications

11. There are none with this proposal.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

12. There is potential for parking to be displaced to other locations

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

13. There are considered to be no equalities impacts.

Risk Assessment

14. If the proposal does not go ahead, pedestrian facilities on Frome Road, Bradford on Avon will remain unchanged.

Financial Implications

15. All expenditure for the necessary works will be funded from existing Highways budgets.

Legal Implications

16. The implementation of the proposed restrictions requires the processing of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). The process of introducing a TRO is governed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and associated procedural regulations. Failure to adhere to the statutory processes could result in the TRO being successfully challenged in the High Court.

Options Considered

17. To:
- (i) Proceed with the proposal as advertised.
 - (ii) Not proceed with the proposal.

Reason for Proposal

18. It is considered that the advertised crossing provides the best solution for the crossing needs of Fitzmaurice School. The alternative suggestion put forward raises safety concerns and is not considered a practical solution to deal with the needs of Fitzmaurice School pupils.

Proposal

19. That the proposal be proceeded as advertised.

The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this Report:

None