

CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT – CLLR PHILIP WHITEHEAD

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

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REFERENCE: HT-08-17

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
PEDESTRIAN CROSSING - A338 SALISBURY ROAD, DOWNTON

Purpose of Report

1. To consider two letters of objection in relation to the proposed puffin crossing on A338 Salisbury Road, Downton and a request from the Parish Council for a yellow box marking on the Long Close and Wick Lane junctions.

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

2. The Council aims to promote health and wellbeing and a sustainable community. The introduction of a pedestrian crossing at this location will help encourage people to walk to the local schools and utilise the adjacent local shops and facilities in safety.

Background

3. In 2012 a pre-application enquiry was received by the Planning Authority in regards to a residential development off A338, Salisbury Road, Downton (GI/12/596) at the time the principle of a light controlled crossing was proposed to and agreed in writing by the Highway Authority. As part of the 2014 Planning permission for 99 dwellings granted by the Council to Charles Church Ltd, the crossing was secured by planning condition. Condition Number 3 of the permission states "no more than 75% of open market dwellings shall be occupied prior to the completion of the on-site pedestrian cycle links to Wick Lane and the offsite PUFFIN crossing in the interests of Highway Safety". As part of the implementation of the PUFFIN crossing, public consultation is required and in response to the consultation two objections have been received (see **Appendix 2**).

Main Considerations for the Council

4. The crossing will facilitate the safe passage of pedestrians across the A338. The A338 is a highly trafficked road which at times does suffer from congestion. The introduction of the crossing will, to an extent, lead to some delays to passing traffic. However, in the context of the current traffic situation the Council is satisfied that the impact on congestion will not be severe or significant. The possible delay to traffic movement is outweighed by the benefit to pedestrian safety provided by the crossing.
5. The proposal for yellow box junctions for both Wick Lane and Long Close has been considered by the Council. The application of the yellow box junction does not offer any significant benefit to exiting vehicles and will compromise the viability of the proposed

PUFFIN crossing due to the fact that it will encourage vehicles to stop at an unacceptable distance from the crossing.

Safeguarding Implications

6. Not Applicable.

Public Health Implications

7. The introduction of a PUFFIN crossing at a point on the desire line for pedestrians will encourage the choice to walk to local facilities (and in particular children to the local schools) which will facilitate a healthy lifestyle.

Corporate Procurement Implications

8. Not applicable.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

9. Some delay to the passage of vehicles could lead to an increase in emissions. However, the Council is satisfied that the introduction of a crossing at this location will not have a significant negative impact on the environment.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

10. The A338 is a highly trafficked road which at times does suffer from congestion. The introduction of the crossing will to an extent lead to some delays to passing traffic. However, in the context of the current traffic situation the Council is satisfied that the impact on congestion will not be severe or significant. The possible delay to traffic movement is outweighed by the benefit to pedestrian safety provided by the crossing.

Risk Assessment

11. Stages 1 and 2 safety audits have been undertaken by the developer. A Stage 3 safety audit will take place on completion of the crossing.

Financial Implications

12. All costs have been met by the developer in regards to the consultation and implementation of the proposed crossing.

Legal Implications

13. There are none.

Options Considered

14. To:
 - (i) Implement the proposals as advertised.
 - (ii) Not implement the proposals.

- (iii) Implement the proposals with amendments.

Reason for Proposal

- 15. The introduction of the residential development at this location is such that the majority of local facilities are on the opposite side of the road. It is apparent that this situation has led to an increase in pedestrian movements across the highly trafficked A338. The introduction of a PUFFIN crossing at this location will ensure the safety of pedestrians crossing at a point of desire.

Proposal

- 16. That the proposals be implemented as advertised
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The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this Report:

None