

OFFICER DECISION REPORT

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ADDRESSED TO: Group Manager - Highways & Traffic

PREPARED BY: Traffic Management Team

TITLE OF REPORT: A362 Radstock Road, Welton, Midsomer Norton

PROPOSAL: Proposed 'Puffin' Pedestrian Crossing

SCHEME REF No.: 19-023

1. STATEMENT

The delegation to be exercised in this report is contained within **Part 3, Section 4** of the Constitution under the **Delegation of Functions to Officers**, as follows:

Section A	The Chief Executive, Strategic Directors, Divisional Directors and Heads of Service have delegated power to take any decision falling within their area of responsibility...."
Section B	Without prejudice to the generality of this, Officers are authorised to: serve any notices and make, amend or revoke any orders falling within his/her area of responsibility.
Section D9	An Officer to whom a power, duty or function is delegated may nominate or authorise another Officer to exercise that power, duty or function, provided that Officer reports to or is responsible to the delegator.

For the purpose of this report, in January 2016, the Divisional Director Environmental Services delegated the power to make, amend or revoke Notices or any Orders to the Group Manager, Highways and Traffic.

2. LEGAL AUTHORITY

This proposal is made in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, which under Section 23 enables local highway authorities to establish crossings for pedestrians.

3. BACKGROUND

A relatively large number of pupils live within walking distance of Welton Primary School, but the school is located on Radstock Road, which is a busy 'A' classified through route. The crossing is currently operated by a relief crossing patrol on a temporary basis.

4. ISSUES

It was originally envisaged that a zebra pedestrian crossing facility would be more an appropriate facility to assist pedestrians in the area, as Radstock Road is subject to a 20mph speed limit adjacent to the school, and there are school warning signs and flashing amber 'wig-wags' in place. However, traffic counts undertaken as part of the design process have indicated that vehicle speeds are too high for a zebra crossing to be safely introduced. It is considered, therefore, that a signal controlled 'puffin' pedestrian crossing would be more appropriate.

There are currently 'School Keep Clear' markings and double yellow line parking restrictions in place adjacent to the school, so the proposed pedestrian 'puffin' crossing is unlikely to have an adverse impact on existing on-street parking and loading provision for local residents. The majority of local residents along this length of Radstock Road also have off-street parking facilities. Similarly, there are no shops or businesses with on-street loading requirements in the immediate vicinity of the school on Radstock Road.

If the new crossing is provided there will no longer be a need for a crossing patrol. They would remain on site for the first week that the puffin crossing is operational to help parents and children get used to it. After that they would return to their normal role as a casual school crossing patrol covering the absences of other patrols when they are unable to work.

5. SOURCE OF FINANCE

The proposed pedestrian puffin crossing is capital funded through the 2019/20 Transport Improvement Programme.

6. CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT

The proposal requires informal consultation with the Police, Ward Members and the Cabinet Members for Transport. If the proposed signal controlled 'puffin' pedestrian crossing is progressed, a formal Notice will be posted on site, and the proposals will be held on deposit at all three of the Council's One-Stop Shops and added to the Council's website.

7. **INFORMAL CONSULTATION FEEDBACK**

Police: The proposal should meet the aspirations as set out in the Officers Decision Report.

Ward Members:

Councillor Michael Evans: We have fought for this over years, and at last it is happening. I have personally and repeatedly pleaded for it with successive councils since 2010. I think Welton Primary School children, their parents, and local residents will be delighted.

Councillor Shaun Hughes: No comments received.

Cabinet Members:

Councillor Neil Butters: No comments received.

Councillor Joanne Wright: Thank you for TRO 19-023 Delighted to see a safe crossing being installed near a school. Please proceed.

8. **RECOMMENDATION**

That approval is given to progress the public advertisement of the legal Notice that is required to support the introduction of the proposed signal controlled 'puffin' pedestrian crossing on Radstock Road, Welton, as indicated on drawing number TC8696/01.

Signature: 

Paul Garrod
Traffic Management & Network Manager

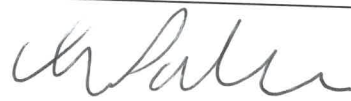
Report Ref.: **19-023**

Date: 04th November 2019

Author's Name: Lewis Cox

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As the officer holding the above delegation, I approve the progression of this Notice.

Signed:		Date:	9/12/2019
Kelvin Packer, Group Manager, Highways and Traffic			