Bath & North East Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives

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Proposed Pedestrian Crossing
Statement of Reasons

Bath and North East Somerset Council

A362 FARRINGTON GURNEY

SIGNAL CONTROLLED 'PUFFIN' PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

STATEMENT OF REASONS

Proposal

To introduce a new traffic signal controlled 'puffin' pedestrian crossing on the A362 Farrington Gurney.

Reasons

Funding has been secured to install a pedestrian crossing on the A362 Farrington Gurney. Pedestrians can currently experience difficulties when crossing over the A362 to reach sites such as Farrington Farm Shop, Farrington Primary School and the village hall. The proposed signal-controlled pedestrian crossing would be located where the southern footway currently ends and the footway on the northern side of the road commences, replacing the existing uncontrolled pedestrian crossing point (dropped kerbs).

It is considered that a signal-controlled 'puffin' pedestrian crossing would be the most suitable form of pedestrian facility at this location, having due regard for the number of pedestrians, volume of traffic, topography, and character of the road.

The Council has considered article 8 within Schedule 1 to the Human Rights Act (Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence) and Protocol 1 Article 1 (Peaceful enjoyment of possessions). Both of these rights are qualified rights, and the Council does not consider that the measures proposed amount to a deprivation of possessions as the right to access property has not been extinguished. The proposals are considered to have a minimal impact on human rights. However, the Council is entitled to affect these rights where it is in accordance with the law, necessary (such as in the interests of public safety or economic well-being, to prevent disorder and crime, to protect health, or to protect the rights and freedoms of others), in pursuit of a legitimate aim and proportionate to do so. The proposals within this report are considered to be in accordance with the law, necessary, in pursuit of a legitimate aim and proportionate.

The Council has had due regard to the needs set out in section 149(1) of the Equality Act 2010. It considers that the proposal is consistent with the section 149 public sector equality duty, which it has discharged.

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984

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.

In making this proposal the Council has discharged its duty under section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

The Council is under a duty pursuant to section 122(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) to exercise its duties under the Act (so far as practicable having regard to the subsection (2) matters), to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians).

As for the subsection 122(2) matters:

a) the desirability of securing and maintaining reasonable access to premises.

Comment: The proposal would not affect access to nearby premises.

b) the effect on the amenities of any locality affected and (without prejudice to the generality of this paragraph) the importance of regulating and restricting the use of roads by heavy commercial vehicles, so as to preserve or improve the amenities of the areas through which the roads run.

Comment: installing a new puffin pedestrian crossing and creating a safer place for pedestrians to cross the A362 would have a positive impact on access to local amenities.

bb) The strategy prepared under section 80 of the Environment Act 1995 (national air quality strategy)

Comment: the proposed crossing could encourage greater pedestrian activity, thus reducing vehicle trips.

c) the importance of facilitating the passage of public service vehicles and of securing the safety and convenience of persons using or desiring to use such vehicles.

Comment: The proposed puffin crossing is on a bus route, but no significant disruption would be caused to the passage of public transport. Installing a puffin pedestrian crossing would create a safer place for passengers to access bus stops in the area.

d) Any other matters appearing to the local authority to be relevant.

Comment: N/A

Having balanced the various matters and considerations, the Council has concluded that it is appropriate to progress the proposal.

The Council has also discharged its duty under section 16 of the Traffic Management Act 2004. It has concluded that the proposal is consistent with that duty, given its other policies and objectives.

Neither section 16 nor section 122 of the 1984 Act precludes the establishment of a crossing.

Date: 15/09/2026