

OFFICER DECISION REPORT - ZEBRA PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

5a

OUTCOME OF PROCESS – DECISION (following objections)

PREPARED BY: Traffic Management Team, Highways and Traffic Group

TITLE OF REPORT:	Crown Road, Weston, Bath
PROPOSAL:	Proposed Zebra Crossing
SCHEME REF No:	24-005
REPORT AUTHOR:	Kelly Huggins

1. DELEGATION

The delegation to be exercised in this report is contained within **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 purposes of this report, the Director of Place Management holds the delegated power to make, amend or revoke any Orders.

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. PROPOSAL

To install a zebra pedestrian crossing on the Crown Road, Weston, approximately 39 metres north of its junction with Weston Lane.

The proposed zebra pedestrian crossing is shown in appendix A.

4. BACKGROUND

Following requests from Ward Members, a zebra pedestrian crossing facility has been identified as an appropriate option to assist pedestrians wishing to cross Crown Road.

The proposed crossing would provide an improved safety amenity for parents and children who are attending St Marys Primary School and using the Recreational Ground, via Gainsborough Gardens. Pedestrians also cross Crown Road in this location to visit local shops on the High Street.

There is a northbound bus stop on the south side of the proposed crossing location, so the proposed pedestrian facility will assist pedestrians who are using public transport.

In addition to this, the design of the zebra crossing accommodates future aspirations to introduce a parallel cycle crossing at this location, which in turn, will further encourage greater walking and cycling activity for this area.

5 SOURCE OF FINANCE

This proposal is being funded through the 2024/25 Transport Improvement Programme.

6. INFORMAL CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT

Informal consultation was carried out with the Chief Constable, Ward Members, and the Cabinet Member for Highways.

The responses to the informal consultation can be found in TRO report number 3.

7. OBJECTIONS / COMMENTS RECEIVED (following the public advertisement of the proposal(s))

The comments received have been summarised below with the technical responses in italics underneath.

- The principal desire line appears to be from the RUH to the High Street. With the crossing in the proposed location, people on this line will either not make use of the crossing or use it but be directed into the car park to the rear of Tesco.
- Does it address the issues covered in the Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)?
- The LCWIP seeks to remove the 'slip road' from High Street to Weston Lane. Use that location for the crossing. The High Street is relatively quiet at this location and the need to cross would be adequately served by an informal crossing (drop kerbs as is the case now).
- Pushchair and wheelchair users, people with walking frames, people who just struggle to do steps are all essentially excluded from the Gainsborough Gardens route. The cycle lane on Crowd Road could be removed and a footway provided (in keeping with the sustainable transport hierarchy to prioritise walking and wheeling).

Officer response:

Following assessments and approval from Ward Members, the proposed zebra crossing location has been identified as an appropriate location to assist pedestrians wishing to cross this section of Crown Road.

The proposed crossing would provide an improved safety amenity for parents and children who are attending St Mary's Primary School and using the Recreational Ground, via Gainsborough Gardens. Pedestrians also cross Crown Road in this location to visit local shops on the High Street.

There is a northbound bus stop on the south side of the proposed crossing, so the proposed facility will also assist pedestrians who are using public transport.

The design of the zebra crossing accommodates future aspirations to introduce a parallel cycle crossing at this location, which is being promoted by the LCWIP project.

The comments concerning an established desire line from the direction of the RUH, are acknowledged. However, in terms of a need to accommodate this established desire line towards St Mary's Primary School etc, it is considered that pedestrians walking from the direction of the RUH and who are using public transport in the area, will use the crossing in the proposed location, as they will, most likely, be heading to and from the High Street. However, pedestrians walking down the steps from Greenbank Gardens are unlikely to walk 'out of their way' towards the suggested zebra crossing location.

Additional measures, such as consideration to provide a footpath, is beyond the scope of this scheme. If this is deemed appropriate at some point in the future, the proposal would need to be assessed for possible inclusion in a future Transport Improvement Programme.

8. **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM WARD MEMBERS AND CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS (in response to the above)**

Ward Members:

Cllr Malcom Treby - No further comments from me on this; I'm fully in favour of it.

Cllr Ruth Malloy - No further comments from me. Thank you.

Cabinet Member for Highways:

Cllr Manda Rigby – I approve this TRO to go forward to the next stage of approval.

8. RECOMMENDATION

That the Notice is published, informing members of public that the zebra pedestrian crossing will be installed, as advertised.



Paul Garrod
Traffic Management & Network Manager

Date: 23rd April 2024

9. DECISION

As the Officer holding the above delegation, I have decided that the objections / comments be not acceded to and the Notice being published, for the zebra pedestrian crossing to be installed, as advertised.

In taking this decision, I confirm that due regard has been given to the Council's public sector equality duty, which requires it to consider and think about how its policies or decisions may affect people who are protected under the Equality Act.

The Council's policy framework has been used as the basis to develop the scheme with full engagement with stakeholders across the area.

I further note that the issue of deciding whether to implement any scheme is a matter of broad judgement, taking into account the wider transport and climate aims of the Council rather than a purely mathematical analysis on the numbers of positive or negative responses.

The arguments both for and against the scheme were clearly identified and were considered fully as part of the decision-making process before I made the final decision as set out above.



Chris Major
Director for Place Management

Date: 24/04/24

APPENDIX A – Proposed General Arrangement

