



Report to Head of Highways

Date:

Reference number:

Title: Hyde Heath Primary School Puffin Crossing

Cabinet Member(s): Cllr Steve Broadbent – Cabinet Member for Transport

Contact officer: Stephen Lewis (stephen.lewis@jacobs.com), Peter Smyth (peter.smyth@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)

Ward(s) affected: **Chiltern Ridges:** Cllr Patricia Birchley, Cllr Mohammad Fayyaz, Cllr Jane Macbean

Recommendations:

- a) To consider the feedback which was received at the statutory consultation
- b) To authorise the implementation and construction of the puffin crossing scheme (as set out in Appendix C) on the provision that the application to build on common land is approved.

Reason for decision:

Background

Funding is being provided through the HS2 Road Safety fund to Transport for Buckinghamshire who have contacted the local members to discuss various options and proposals for resolving issues in the local area. Local residents are concerned with lack of crossing opportunities for school children and other pedestrians along Weedon Hill/Hyde Heath Road. Up to 60 school children under the age of seven cross the road each day and there is currently only an uncontrolled crossing in place which is also currently unlit. The road is reported as experiencing an increase in traffic and speeding issues. The Village Society have undertaken significant anti-speed measures in response to several near misses. The location plan/consultation drawing can be found enclosed in Appendix C.

Other options available, and their pros and cons

Following discussions with key stakeholders it was collectively agreed that the measures listed above would be taken forward.

Conflicts of interest

None

Feedback from Consultation

- In compliance with the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 and Section 23 of Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, a statutory consultation was undertaken between 19 September and 10 October 2022. A summary of the feedback is shown in Appendix A.
- There was overwhelming support for these proposals, and we recommend proceeding to implementation with no amendments. Unfortunately, we are not able to reduce the size of the crossing as it is already at a minimum length to retain parking for parents. At this stage we are not able to introduce new roads or proposals.
- We received comments from the Chair of Governors who strongly supports these proposals.
- The full written responses to the statutory consultation are contained in Appendix B. These have been reviewed and considered against the proposals as advertised.
- The proposed puffin crossing is situated on Weedon Hill, Hyde Heath and is covered by the following councillors: Councillor Patricia Birchley, Councillor Mohammad Fayyaz and Councillor Jane Macbean.

TfB invited all Local Members to provide a comment on the proposals advertised at statutory consultation. We have received the following comments below:

- Councillor Patricia Birchley stated the following: "Fine by me thanks Tara".
- Councillor Mohammad Fayyaz stated the following: "Thank you for the report. Fine by me".
- Councillor Jane Macbean stated the following: "I am delighted that the recommendation is to proceed with the installation of a new signalised puffin crossing outside Hyde Heath Infant School. We would all like to see this in place in order to affect a clearer and far safer crossing point for the pupils, families, staff and visitors to the school and adjacent area. The new crossing markings and the double yellow lines outside St Andrew's Church will, hopefully, also assist in the prevention of unsafe and inappropriate parking in the immediate vicinity. Thank you for all your work on this".
- As outlined above, all three ward Members are aware of the scheme, and are supportive of the proposals, and this has been reflected in the recommendations.
- Neil Biggs, from Thames Valley Police has also responded to the consultation stating that "I can confirm that Thames Valley Police have no objection to these proposals."

Financial Information

Funding is being provided by HS2 Road Safety fund to Transport for Buckinghamshire which will cover the cost of the statutory consultation, design, and construction.

Background papers

- Appendix A – Decision Report
- Appendix B – Collated responses
- Appendix C – Consultation drawing

Your questions and views

If you have any questions about the matters contained in this paper, please get in touch with the Contact Officer whose email address is given at the head of the paper.



Approval Signature

**Dave Roberts
Head of Highways**

Date: 04/01/23

