

Divisions affected: *Wallingford*

**CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT
8 DECEMBER 2022**

**BRIGHTWELL CUM SOTWELL: HIGH ROAD
PROPOSED PUFFIN CROSSING**

Report by Corporate Director, Environment and Place

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Cabinet Member for Highway Management is RECOMMENDED to approve as advertised a puffin crossing at High Road, Brightwell cum Sotwell.

Executive summary

2. The report presents responses to a statutory consultation on the proposed installation of a puffin crossing on High Road at Brightwell cum Sotwell, as shown in **Annex 1**.

Financial Implications

3. Funding for the proposals, including consultation will be met from the Community Infrastructure Levy and from the County Council's Accessibility and Road Safety Programme.

Equality and Inclusion Implications

4. No implications in respect of equalities or inclusion have been identified in respect of the proposals.

Sustainability Implications

5. The proposals would help facilitate walking, and the safety of pedestrians in the vicinity.

Consultation

6. Formal consultation was carried out between 20 October and 18 November 2022, with an email sent to statutory consultees & key-stakeholders, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, Bus operators, countywide transport, access & disabled peoples user groups, South

Oxfordshire District Council, and the local County Councillor representing the Wallingford division. Letters were also sent directly to approx. 15 adjacent properties in the immediate vicinity

- 37 responses were received via the online survey during the course of the formal consultation, and these are summarised in the table below:

Proposal	Object	Concerns	Support	No opinion/ objection	Total
Puffin crossing	3 (8%)	7 (19%)	27 (73%)	0	37

- Additionally, two emails were received, comprising of a non-objection from Thames Valley Police, and one raising concerns over the reasoning – questioning the actual need for the crossing.
- The full responses are shown at **Annex 2**, and copies of the original responses are also available for inspection by County Councillors.

Response to Consultation

- Thames Valley Police submitted a non-objection providing the necessary speed monitoring had taken place and supported a crossing at the proposed location, and that the crossing fully meets current design standards. Officers confirm that the scheme has been subject to full safety audit analysis and meets all current design standards.
- The responses received via the online survey were all from members of the public, and all (except a single Oxford resident) from Brightwell cum Sotwell. Support was expressed by 27 respondents but concern from a further 7. The Oxford objector argued the crossing was unnecessary and strongly criticised OCC policy; officers consider this response to be irrelevant to the consultation.
- The 2 residual objections and all concerns focussed on the proposed location. A location further west was favoured by 7 with 3 of those also citing greater traffic calming benefits in that location. 2 just stated the position as flawed suggesting they agreed with the others regarding the location.
- The responses are shown at **Annex 2**, and copies of the original responses are available for inspection by County Councillors.

Officer response to objections/concerns

- The proposed location formalises an existing unofficial crossing location on a strong desire line. Given all responses were from Brightwell cum Sotwell they may not realise that pedestrians on the western periphery of Wallingford are the chief users of the current informal crossing point.

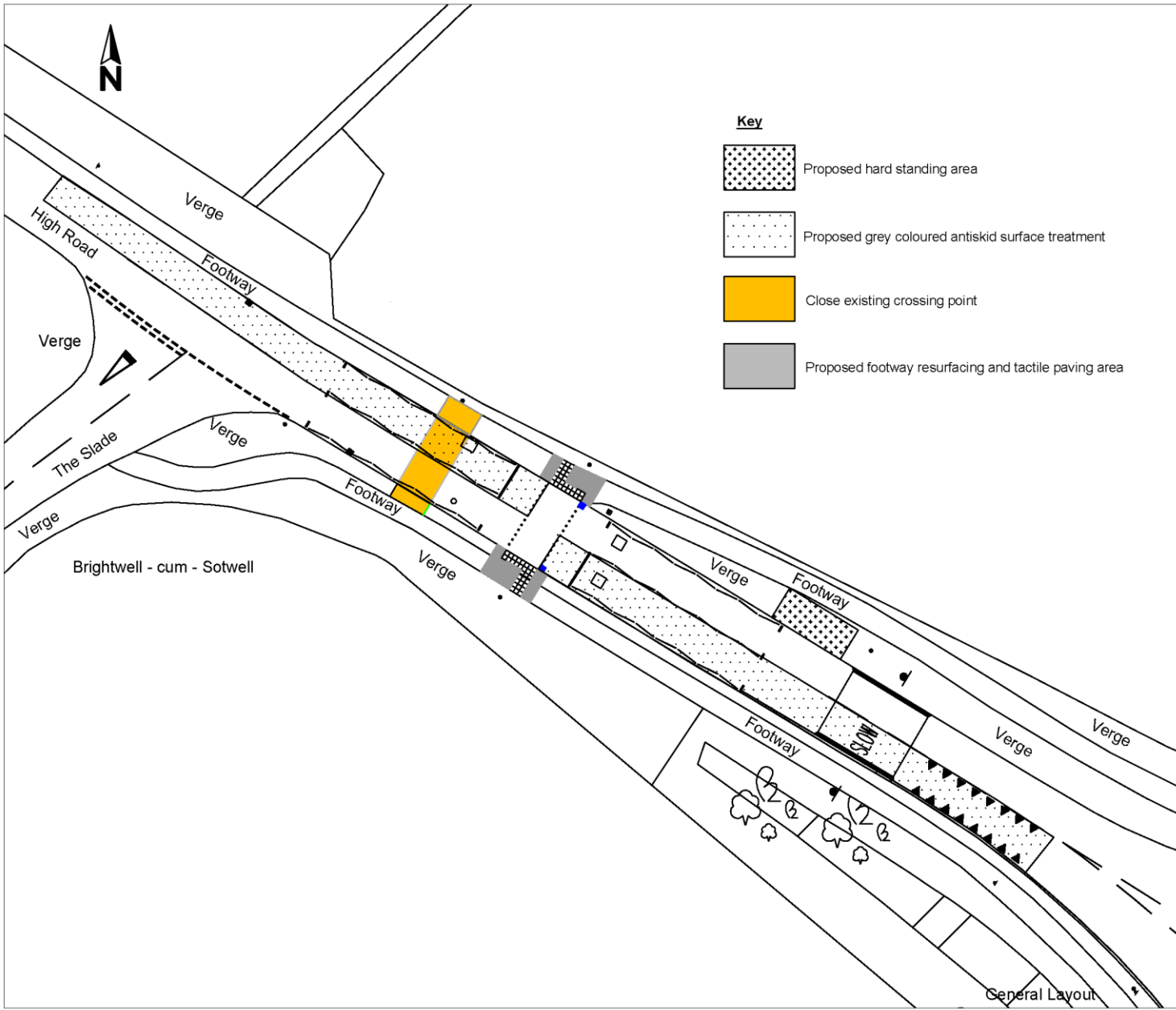
Bill Cotton
Corporate Director, Environment and Place

Annexes Annex 1: Consultation Plan
 Annex 2: Consultation responses

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December 2022

Drawing No. Revision



SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

IN ADDITION TO THE HAZARDS/RISKS NORMALLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE TYPES OF WORK DETAILED ON THIS DRAWING, NOTE THE FOLLOWING SIGNIFICANT RESIDUAL RISKS

CONSTRUCTION
MAINTENANCE/CLEANING
DECOMMISSIONING/DEMOLITION

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Rev.	Date	Purpose of revision	Drawn	Checked	Approved



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Project title
Brightwell - cum - Sotwell
High Road
Proposed Puffin Crossing

Drawing title
General Layout

Drawing Status Consultation

Scale @ A3	Drawn by RGr	Checked by	Approved by
	Date drawn	Date checked	Date approved

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ANNEX 2

RESPONDENT	COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	No objection – providing the necessary speed monitoring has taken place and the result support such a crossing at this location, and that the crossing fully meets current design standards .
(2) Member of public, (Brightwell-cum-Sotwell, Bakers Lane)	Object - The crossing should be further up the road closer to the garden centre.
(3) Member of public, (Brightwell-cum-Sotwell, Bakers Lane)	Object - The position of the proposed crossing does not serve the whole community, for example horse riders. It should be positioned further west closer to the garden centre Root One. This gives access to the footpath and bridleway. This will also reduce the speed on the A4130 past the village entrances.
(4) Member of public, (Oxford, Banbury Road)	Object - This council has introduced far too many new traffic light controlled crossings on major roads already, sadly drivers expect nothing less from this council now which has shown its bigotry and hate towards us for years and does everything to make driving less comfortable and efficient, their proposals and justifications cannot be trusted, nor even can their data, so all of their proposals regarding traffic should be rejected. This crossing has not been shown to be needed and will be expensive to install.
(5) Member of public, (Brightwell, Slade End)	Concerns - I would also like to know the reasoning behind this project. Why is it considered necessary?
(6) Member of public, (Brightwell, Church Lane)	Concerns - Support pedestrian crossing, but not at as designed close to a roundabout, access road from Brightwell and a bus stop.
(7) Member of public, (Brightwell cum Sotwell, Sotwell Street)	Concerns - Positioning is flawed

<p>(8) Member of public, (Brightwell cum Sotwell, Sotwell Street)</p>	<p>Concerns - I would question the location chosen for the new crossing.</p>
<p>(9) Member of public, (Brightwell cum Sotwell, High Road)</p>	<p>Concerns - Should be further up the A4130 near Root One, where the bridle way crosses the road. Many people try to cross the road there, on foot, horse and bike. More useful than down by the Slade End roundabout .</p>
<p>(10) Member of public, (Brightwell-Cum-Sotwell, High Road)</p>	<p>Concerns - I totally agree with having it but think the location is wrong and it should be further up near root-one garden centre so that not only is it a crossing but it doubles up to additionally slow traffic as the speeds are awful.</p>
<p>(11) Member of public, (Brightwell-cum-Sotwell, High Road)</p>	<p>Concerns - I support the notion of a pedestrian crossing on this road however not the proposed location. The crossing should be situated further towards Route One Garden Centre, and ideally in the middle of the stretch of A4130 that runs past Brightwell village to benefit all the villagers and not just those living near or in Slade End.</p>
<p>(12) Member of public, (Brightwell-cum-Sotwell, Kings Orchard)</p>	<p>Concerns - I think the crossing needs to be further up, closer to Root One garden centre to be of use to villagers and to reduce traffic speeds. The area by the roundabout is already a 30 zone whereas further up is where the majority of residents live in Brightwell and cross the main road, and just where cars are reaching their top speeds in the 50 zone. Overall though a crossing is better than no crossing.</p>
<p>(13) Member of public, (Brightwell-cum-Sotwell, Sotwell Street)</p>	<p>Support - As a resident of Brightwell -cum -Sotwell I am increasingly concerned about the safety of myself and my 3 sons in our attempts to get to and from Wallingford (for school and other activities) by foot or bicycle . The traffic is notably increasing and faster and really is a tragedy waiting to happen !</p>
<p>(14) Member of public, (Brightwell cum Sotwell, Bell Lane)</p>	<p>Support - I am supporting this proposal and believe even more safety features should be considered. This road has become increasingly dangerous and difficult to cross with increased population in local area. The new housing estate on neighbouring road has 40 mph speed limit, blocked overtaking and a central reservation for pedestrians and traffic to wait. Brightwell residents need to cross road to access church and Root One plus the pavement to walk to Wallingford. House access is also directly onto this road. Local walks involve crossing road with dogs and children who are not able to safely run across road. Leaving the village by car is also hazardous particularly if there is a need</p>

	to turn right. A pedestrian crossing is necessary plus reduced speed limit. Traffic lights at village entrance would also make driving safer.
(15) Member of public, (Brightwell cum Sotwell, Brightwell Street)	Support - Tricky and dangerous point that has a lot of children crossing at peril
(16) Member of public, (Brightwell cum Sotwell, Greenmere)	Support - I support the need for a crossing on the A4130 High Road, but I have concerns in regard to the location. I feel the location would better serve the community if it was more central to the village. i.e. opposite Root one entrance
(17) Member of public, (Brightwell cum Sotwell, High Road)	Support - I live near this area and the speed at which people drive is scary and makes it impossible for those of us wishing to cross over to walk dogs or enjoy the countryside
(18) Member of public, (Brightwell cum Sotwell, Kings Orchard)	Support - The road is fast and dangerous to cross on foot when walking to Wallingford
(19) Member of public, (Brightwell cum Sotwell, Monks Mead)	Support - I have lived in Brightwell for 8 yrs. and the A4130 is very dangerous to try and cross it is for some reason still 50mph where other roads in Hadden hill and by the new house have been reduced to 40mph. With Children needing to go to Wallingford school with no crossing it is and accident waiting to happen. It is difficult to even pull out of Brightwell junctions at peak times as the road is so busy.
(20) Member of public, (Brightwell cum Sotwell, Old Didcot Road)	Support - It is dangerous crossing the road with my children and my dog, even on my own is a challenge. Cars do not adhere to the speed limit and there is a lot more traffic on the roads
(21) Member of public, (Brightwell cum Sotwell, Sotwell Street)	Support - This is a busy road, which will only continue to get busier with the number of houses being built in the local area. Installing a puffin crossing will ensure a safer crossing of this road.
(22) Member of public, (Brightwell cum Sotwell, Kings orchard)	Support - Brightwell villager with 2 children who walk to Wallingford. The current ways of crossing are not safe - this would provide a safe way to cross.
(23) Member of public, (Brightwell-Cum-Sotwell, Greenmere)	Support - Due to recent developments the A4130 has become extremely busy with traffic at all times of the day and is dangerous to cross on foot for an able person, but for those with children or a disability, it is almost impossible. School

	transport is not always affordable for most families in the village and so students of Wallingford school should be able to walk in if their families have no other way to get them to school.
(24) Member of public, (Brightwell-cum-Sotwell, Kings Orchard)	Support - A safe crossing point is important for the village.
(25) Member of public, (Brightwell-cum-Sotwell, Sotwell Street)	Support - Cars will naturally be slowed by the positioning of the crossing when coming off Wallingford roundabout. This will make access to Slade end safer for pedestrians and vehicles. It covers pedestrian access to Wallingford for the entire village of Brightwell via Slade end
(26) Member of public, (Brightwell-cum-Sotwell, Sotwell Street)	Support - As a father of 3 young boys, I've found it increasingly more difficult to cross the main road to get to/from Wallingford, and feel the crossing is long overdue. We've noticed an increase in the volume of traffic with the housing development as well, making it even more dangerous for young children get to school, town, parks in Wallingford. I look forward to seeing the crossing in place before an accident occurs.
(27) Member of public, (Brightwell-cum-Sotwell, Greenmere)	Support - I live in Brightwell and the road is very hard and frightening to cross because of the spreading traffic.
(28) Member of public, (Brightwell-cum-Sotwell, Greenmere)	Support - I live in Brightwell-cum-Sotwell
(29) Member of public, (Oxford, Richards Lane)	Support - We should prioritise Bikers and Pedestrians over cars
(30) Member of public, (Wallingford, Mackney Lane)	Support - Children have great difficulty cross this fast road.
(31) Member of public, (Wallingford, Wantage Road)	Support - My children cross this road regularly to go to school and visit friends in Brightwell cum Sotwell

<p>(32) Member of public, (Wallingford, Wantage road)</p>	<p>Support - The crossing point is very busy with pedestrians and as cars come off the roundabout very quickly making it currently a very dangerous place to cross</p>
<p>(33) Member of public, (Wallingford, Wantage Road)</p>	<p>Support - I strongly support the crossing to help people cross this fast-moving road between Brightwell and Wallingford. I have seen several near misses recently and am aware of a severe accident in the last year or two. The signage needs to be right to ensure cars coming from the Wallingford ring road are aware of it.</p>
<p>(34) Member of public, (Wallingford, Wantage Road)</p>	<p>Support - A crossing will improve safety for pedestrians enroute between Brightwell-cum- Sotwell and Wallingford - especially important for Brightwell children attending Wallingford School. Enhanced safety measures will encourage parents to allow their children to travel independently, thus reducing car journeys. I personally would appreciate the use of a crossing for when I walk to Brightwell. Trying to cross the A4130 has become increasingly hazardous, as the recent accident involving a child unfortunately demonstrated.</p>
<p>(35) Member of public, (Wallingford, Wantage Road)</p>	<p>Support - It is a very busy road with school children crossing to catch the school bus. There has been RTA's in this part of the road already.</p>
<p>(36) Member of public, (Wallingford, Fir tree Avenue)</p>	<p>Support - It creates a much needed safe crossing space from Brightwell to route 1 garden centre and the footpath to Wallingford</p>
<p>(37) Member of public, (Wallingford, Wantage Road)</p>	<p>Support - Child and pedestrian safety</p>
<p>(38) Member of public, (Wallingford, Wantage Road)</p>	<p>Support - Cars do not currently adhere to the 30mph limit and I regularly cross this road with my young son to get to Brightwell from my house. It is a difficult road to cross without restrictions and I have witnessed accidents here.</p>
<p>(39) Member of public, (Wallingford, Wantage Road)</p>	<p>Support - We live near here and my children have to cross this river get to school. It is an extremely dangerous stretch of road to cross, lots of fast traffic and blind spots. A crossing would make it a lot safer for motorists and pedestrians.</p>

