

Divisions affected: *Abingdon North, Abingdon South*

## **DELEGATED DECISIONS BY CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT**

**10 OCTOBER 2024**

### **ABINGDON: FARINGDON ROAD – PROPOSED ZEBRA CROSSING**

**Report by Director of Environment and Highways**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Cabinet Member is **RECOMMENDED** to:

- a) **Approve the construction of a Zebra crossing on Faringdon Road in Abingdon, as advertised.**

#### **Executive summary**

1. This report presents responses to the statutory consultation on the proposals to construct a Zebra crossing (for use by pedestrians only) on Faringdon Road in Abingdon, approximately 270 metres northwest of its junction with Spring Road, adjacent to St. Helen and St. Katharine school, as shown in **Annexes 1 & 2**.

#### **Financial Implications**

2. Funding for the proposals (including consultation) has been provided by Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies, which will also fund the implementation if approved.

#### **Legal Implications**

3. No legal implications have been identified in respect of the proposals, with proposed changes to – in respect of traffic calming – governed by the Highways Act 1980 and other associated procedural regulations. Failure to adhere to these statutory processes could result in the proposals being challenged.

#### **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 will help promote road safety for pedestrians in the immediate vicinity, specifically for those pupils attending local schools.

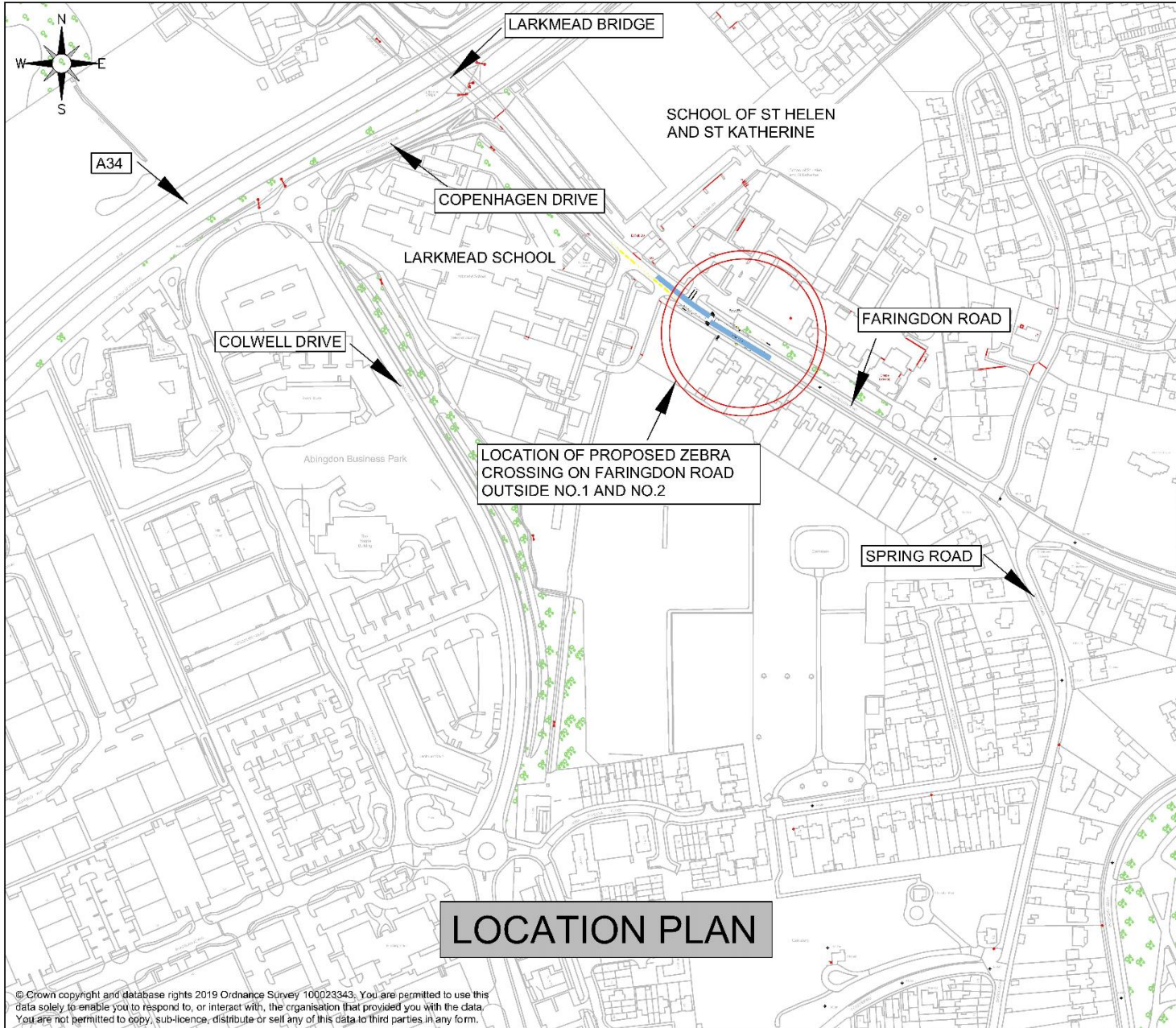
## **Formal consultation**

6. A formal consultation was carried out between 26 June and 26 July 2024. A notice was published in the Oxfordshire Herald Series newspaper, and an email was 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, Vale of White Horse District Council, Abingdon Town Council, local District Cllr's, and the local County Councillors representing the Abingdon North, and the Abingdon South divisions.
7. Letters were sent directly to approx. 15 properties in the immediate vicinity, and notices were also placed on site adjacent to the proposed crossing location.
8. 77 responses were received during the course of the formal consultation, comprising of: three objections (4%), 64 in support (83%), three partially supporting (4%), and seven not objecting (9%).
9. The full responses are shown at **Annex 3**, and copies of the original submissions are available for inspection by County Councillors.

## **Officer response to objections/concerns**

10. Thames Valley Police submitted a non-objection, providing that the necessary speed monitoring had been taken and the results support such a crossing, and also that the crossing meets the latest design standards.
11. Three objections were received from residents. Two of these objections were on grounds of the proposed crossing being too close to private driveways, whilst the third objection regarding traffic levels is considered to be outside the scope of this proposal.
12. In response to the objections for the proposal being too close to private driveways, the original proposal for the zebra crossing was for it to be installed outside property no.1. Subsequently it was decided that it would be more appropriate to relocate the crossing to the northwest, which would further serve pedestrians crossing the road from both adjacent schools as well as minimising potential light pollution to adjacent properties nos.1-3. The crossing is approximately 12 metres away from the driveway of property no.1





**LOCATION PLAN**

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Rev	Date	Description	Dr	Crtd
Revisions				

Drawing Originator:



Drawing Status	SAP Code
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Project Name:  
**FARINGDON ROAD, ABINGDON**

Title: **LOCATION PLAN** Original drawing sheet is A3  
**PROPOSED NEW ZEBRA CROSSING**  
**OUTSIDE SCHOOL OF ST HELEN**  
**AND ST KATHERINE**

Scale (A3)	Drawn By	Checked by	Approved by
NOT TO SCALE	JAR	LT	LT
	Drawn Date	Checked Date	Approved Date
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- KEY:
- PROPOSED PCC DROPPED KERBS
  - PROPOSED PCC TRANSITION KERBS
  - PROPOSED HIGH FRICTION SURFACING APPLIED ON THE CARRIAGEWAY ON EACH APPROACH OF THE PROPOSED CROSSING
  - PROPOSED NEW RED TACTILES
  - EXISTING STREET LIGHTING COLUMN

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Revisions

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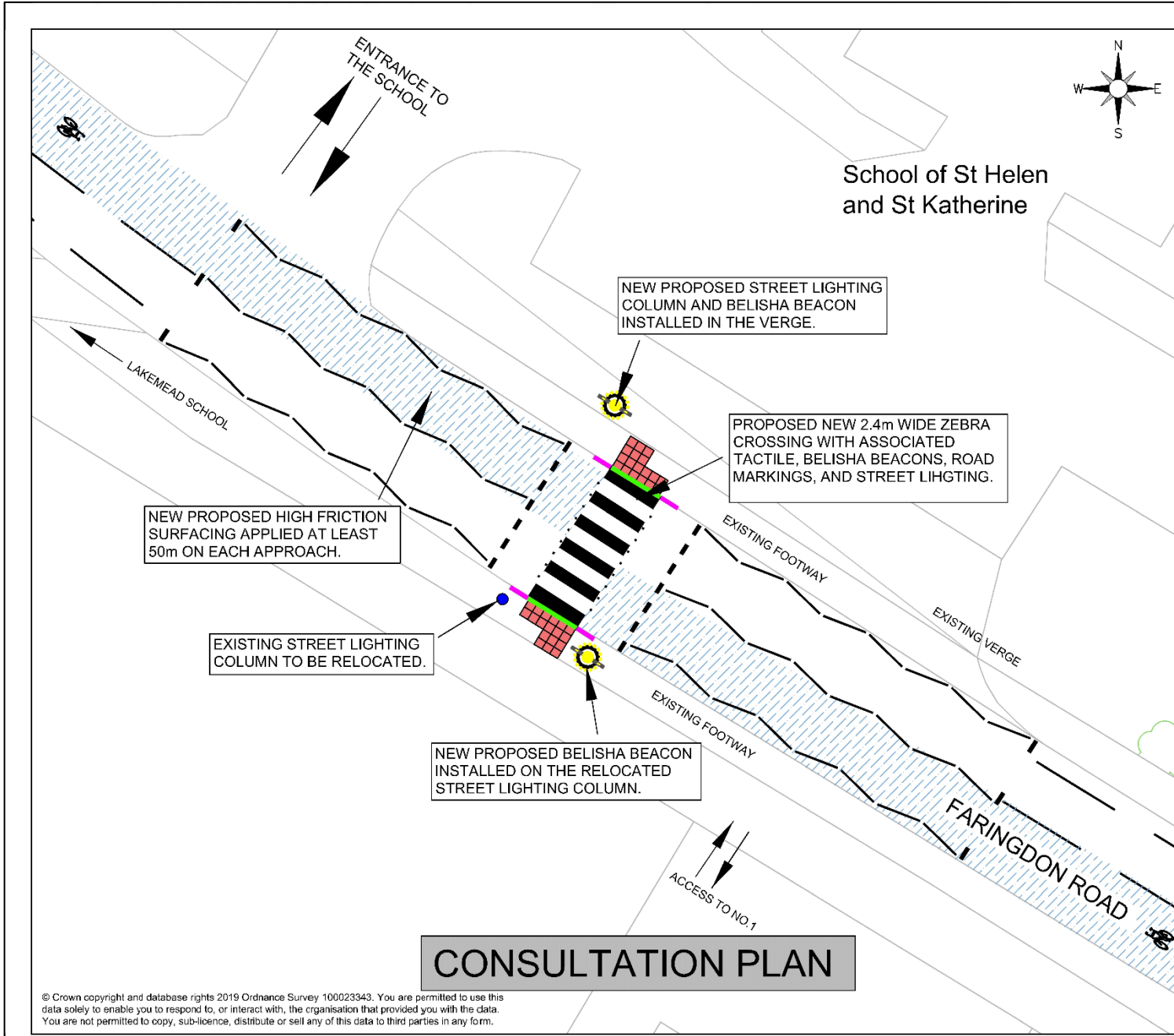
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Project Name:  
**FARINGDON ROAD, ABINGDON**

Title: **PROPOSED NEW ZEBRA CROSSING OUTSIDE SCHOOL OF ST HELEN AND ST KATHERINE**

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## ANNEX 3

RESPONDENT	COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	<b>No objection</b> – providing the necessary speed monitoring has taken and results support such a crossing, and the crossing meets latest design standards .
(2) County Cllr, (Abingdon, Hanson Road)	<b>Support</b> – Having put forward this proposal and helped secure the funding I am really keen this gets approved, with the backing of my fellow Abingdon residents. This proposal will help make Faringdon Road safer especially for the students of the schools. It will also encourage more people to be confident to make journeys on foot or by bike.
(3) Local Cllr (Town Councillor for Fitzharris Ock Ward)	<b>Support</b> – I am very happy to support this, improved walking routes are key to safer travel for residents of all ages and physical abilities. Residents often mention road safety when I speak to them and this is something that will meet their concerns
(4) Local Cllr (Abingdon, Cherwell Close)	<b>Support</b> – Safety is paramount.
(5) Local Cllr (Abingdon, Mons Way)	<b>Support</b> – With two schools on opposite sides of this road there are a large number of children walking to and from the schools, playing fields and to and from Shippon village and Dalton Barracks. This applies for roughly two thirds to three quarters of the year and this road is used as a rat run for traffic coming into Abingdon from the west, especially in the morning to avoid queueing down the A415 from Marcham across the Marcham interchange towards Ock Street and Spring Road. This will ensure a much safer active travel route for all residents but especially the children
(6) Local Cllr (Abingdon, South Avenue)	<b>Support</b> – Pedestrian safety, especially as regards the schools on the road

<p>(7) Local resident, (Abingdon, Faringdon Road)</p>	<p><b>Object</b> – I believe the proposed place is outside No 1 Faringdon Road. I live at on Faringdon Road , my objection is to it being so close to my driveway. The access to get on and off my drive is very difficult as the drive access is deceivingly steep and access on and off has to be taken at quite a cross angle. I feel with a Zebra crossing so close to the drive it would make it increasingly more dangerous to drivers and pedestrians and for me to drive on and off my driveway.</p> <p>I would appreciate your cooperation in completely reviewing the proposed crossing in Faringdon Road.</p>
<p>(8) Local resident, (Abingdon, Faringdon Road)</p>	<p><b>Object</b> – We already have difficulty at school times getting on and off our driveway safely in a car due to traffic and a constant stream of children walking down the path. This zebra crossing will cause a backlog of traffic and will make it even harder to get on and off the road safely. Due to the gradient of our driveways and the poor visibility due to the large hedge we have to exit our driveways at a diagonal, right across the wavy lines prior to the crossing. Please consider moving the crossing closer to the school and away from the houses.</p>
<p>(9) Local resident, (Marcham, Frilford Road)</p>	<p><b>Object</b> – Traffic is already terrible, this proposal will back it up even more in Shippon. How about reducing the traffic load by allowing 6th formers on the school buses, and insisting private schools lay on more buses to reduce the number of parents driving. This would improve safety.</p>
<p>(10) Local resident, (Abingdon, Faringdon Road)</p>	<p><b>Partially support</b> – It would make a lot more sense for the crossing to be much closer to Spring Road, between Harding Road and the other entrance to St Helen and St Katharine. This would enable more students to cross the road from both St Helen's and Larkmead, and also would prevent any further traffic congestion that happens outside Larkmead/St Helen's entrance shown near the proposed crossing during school drop off and pick up. In the current proposed location, the view for students wanting to cross from Larkmead to St Helen's would be partially obscured due to parents parking on the road - this could cause safety concerns about a student walking onto the crossing without a view from a vehicle. Additionally, students arriving to St Helen's on foot do so at the other entrance, so they would still be crossing the road 'ad hoc' rather than on the safety of a crossing. I would fully support a move of the crossing to closer to Harding Road.</p>

<p>(11) Member of public, (Abingdon, Appleford Drive)</p>	<p><b>Partially support</b> – Zebra is great bulgur there east would surely tap into the major flow from St Helen's in particular. They come out and turn left then eastwards or down Spring Road. They don't head west.</p>
<p>(12) Local resident, (Wootton, Berrymere Road)</p>	<p><b>Partially support</b> – Very good idea</p>
<p>(13) As part of a group/organisation, (Abingdon, Faringdon Road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – I am an AHT at Larkmead School. We have a number of worries about the safety of our students crossing Faringdon Road when it is busy (school start and end times). Equally, we are concerned for the safety of cyclists crossing the road to go home and this would allow us to insist students use teh crossing before mounting their bikes. In the past we have had an OCC lollipop person but this has now stopped sue to a lack of funding. Our staff are unable to support stopping traffic without appropriate training. This crossing would ensure that students have right of way t o cross the road safely.</p>
<p>(14) Member of public, (Abingdon, Andersey Way)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – My children go to Larkmead school and this is much needed at school run times. A big hazard in the mornings is the school buses going in and out of St Helen's &amp; St Katherine's school further up the road. It is not a safe road to cycle here at these times.</p>
<p>(15) Local resident, (Abingdon, Appleford Drive)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – There should be zebra crossings at all of the secondary school areas! We encourage our young people to become independent so they deserve the tools and safety measures in place to manage this. Please, please, consider a crossing at Fitzharrys School next. Thanks for all you are doing.</p>
<p>(16) Local resident, (Abingdon, Borough Walk)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – Road is busy and difficult to cross. People drive too fast despite 20mph speed limit in place, making crossing at peak times almost impossible.</p>
<p>(17) As part of a group/organisation, (Abingdon, Bostock Road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – The crossing is proposed on a quite busy road, particularly at school times, and would help many children and their parents/carers on their journeys to school. A zebra seems a good solution because it does not require pedestrians waiting for a 'green man' signal, and vehicle drivers can continue as soon as the crossing is clear.</p>



<p>(18) Local resident, (Abingdon, Conduit Road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – It makes sense to me to make it easier and safer for pedestrians to get around on foot in Abingdon. This will benefit the whole community, not just the school students.</p>
<p>(19) Local resident, (Abingdon, Darrell Way)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – A zebra crossing will make getting to school far safer for a large number of children.</p>
<p>(20) Local resident, (Abingdon, Drayton Road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – I consider that any traffic calming scheme in Abingdon is very positive. Considering that there are two large schools in that part of Faringdon Road my view is that the scheme is long overdue. My family resides in Harding Road and, when I walk from south Abingdon to visit them I observe many drivers exceeding the speed limit.</p>
<p>(21) Local resident, (Abingdon, Farringdon Road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – Safety for all residents including children in thwew way to and from school with traffic getting bigger</p>
<p>(22) Local resident, (Abingdon, Fitzharrys Road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – Despite the 20mph speed limit, Farringdon Road remains a dangerous road for students, of all the schools situated on it. Relying on lollipop patrols ultimately puts lives at risk. This crossing is particularly important because Larkmead School lost two members of their school community in the same academic year and whilst this was a while ago, and not outside the school, Sarah and Tyree are still thought of. We have a duty to ensure the safety of ALL students and ensure further deaths and injuries are prevented.</p>
<p>(23) Local resident, (Abingdon, Parsons Mead)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – Safter for our children going to and from school.also safter for other pedestrians for every day use</p>
<p>(24) Member of public, (Abingdon, Ramsons Way)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – Safe and place to cross would be beneficial as two schools in immediate vicinity.</p>
<p>(25) Local resident, (Abingdon, Rawlings Grove)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – As a parent with a young family we often walk along this road and really struggle to get across so having a crossing out in would be perfect. Plus there are three schools along this road and not a crossing for the children to get across safely.</p>

(26) Local resident, (Abingdon, Shelley Close)	<b>Support</b> – 10 years ago when I was in sixth form this zebra crossing would have been a life saver! I had many near misses on this road trying to sagely cross to get to school! I'm glad this is finally being done
(27) Local resident, (Abingdon, South Avenue)	<b>Support</b> – My children went to Larkmead, very busy road with a lot of cars, my first thought was for the children getting to school safely
(28) Local resident, (Abingdon, Spring Road)	<b>Support</b> – As a local resident with young children that daily have to cross the road in the place where a zebra crossing is proposed, I fully support this - it would make my journey with my children much safer. I also work at St Helen and St Katharine and know that the safety of students walking home and to Abingdon School (a large number of which have to do this twice daily to catch the bus) would be greatly improved by this addition.
(29) Local resident, (Abingdon, St Nicholas Green)	<b>Support</b> – My son is about to start at Larkmead and a crossing here would make it possible to take quieter, safer back roads on foot or bike on his journey to and from the school. I've always been very surprised there isn't a crossing here already. He has additional needs which makes crossing roads harder for him, so this proposal will brings extra benefits to vulnerable people.
(30) Local resident, (Abingdon, St Nicolas School)	<b>Support</b> – Safer for our children to cross
(31) Member of public, (Abingdon, Stonehill Walk)	<b>Support</b> – Because my son is a member of larkmead school who walks daily and this will make it much safer
(32) Local resident, (Abingdon, west St Helen Street)	<b>Support</b> – Pedestrian safety

(33) Member of public, (Abingdon, West St Helen Street)	<b>Support</b> – Improved safety for school children
(34) Local resident, (Abingdon, Wootton Road)	<b>Support</b> – It will make it much safer for school children to cross
(35) Local resident, (Abingdon, Ypres Way)	<b>Support</b> – There are two schools in this location and a large number of children leaving at the same time. This crossing is essential to provide safety for pupils. It will also benefit traffic as lights will regulate flow rather than a constant stream of pupils holding drivers up.
(36) Local resident, (Abingdon, Berry Croft)	<b>Support</b> – Because there's only one crossing and we need more
(37) Local resident, (Abingdon, Bostock Road)	<b>Support</b> – Road safety for children
(38) Member of public, (Abingdon, Daisy Bank)	<b>Support</b> – It will take some strain off of the crossing on Spring Road.
(39) Local resident, (Abingdon, Evelin Road)	<b>Support</b> – Safe crossing here is a priority.
(40) Member of public, (Abingdon, Gainsborough Green)	<b>Support</b> – There is a need for many children to cross that road on the way to school and the volume of traffic is huge at school times so this would make it safer
(41) Local resident, (Abingdon, Ginge Close)	<b>Support</b> – Safety of children

<p>(42) Local resident, (Abingdon, Harding Road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – I live on Harding Road and have to cross this road constantly with my 5 year old. It feels really dangerous doing so without a zebra crossing not to mention the hundreds of school children that we see having to cross that part of the road daily without a proper crossing.</p>
<p>(43) Local resident, (Abingdon, Harding Road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – I was surprised when I moved to the area there wasn't a crossing near the schools. Think this is a great addition and could help reduce speed of cars coming over from Shippon</p>
<p>(44) Local resident, (Abingdon, Harding Road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – This road is fast and dangerous and see a lot of near misses</p>
<p>(45) Member of public, (Abingdon, Lee Avenue)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – All things that improve safety good</p>
<p>(46) Local resident, (Abingdon, Lenthall Road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – This is close to schools and as a driver in this area also I do think it's a place that accidents could be prone to so this would really help</p>
<p>(47) Local resident, (Abingdon, Meadowside)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – Supporting because there is no safe crossing for school children in that area.</p>
<p>(48) Local resident, (Abingdon, Ock Street)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – It's needed to keep the pupils of both schools safe as I have witnessed kids trying to cross there at busy times and it's so dangerous!</p>
<p>(49) Local resident, (Abingdon, Oxford Road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – I have children that go to Larkmead and they would benefit from a safe crossing over the Farrington Road</p>
<p>(50) Local resident, (Abingdon, Penlon Place)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – Many children need to cross the road here and do so but its not safe!</p>

(51) Local resident, (Abingdon, Riley Close)	<b>Support</b> – Great idea
(52) Local resident, (Abingdon, Riley Close)	<b>Support</b> – Good for children
(53) Local resident, (Abingdon, Saxton Road)	<b>Support</b> – I work at one of those schools and it's so difficult to cross safely to work when it's busy. Hopefully it will help enforce the new speed limit. Maybe we will get some speed bumps down there or cameras with a view to spring road also having a camera.
(54) Member of public, (Abingdon, Saxton Road)	<b>Support</b> – It will be much safer for the school children to cross.
(55) Member of public, (Abingdon, Skylark Fields)	<b>Support</b> – Safer for the children especially peak times before school and after. This should have been in place many years ago!
(56) Member of public, (Abingdon, Springfield Drive)	<b>Support</b> – Safer for pedestrians to cross
(57) Local resident, (Abingdon, St Nicholas Green)	<b>Support</b> – The road is extremely dangerous at school times with car traffic and especially buses. This crossing is long overdue especially since the schools stopped having a person assisting the children crossing the road
(58) Local resident, (Abingdon, St Peter's Road)	<b>Support</b> – School children should have a safer option for crossing such a busy road
(59) Member of public, (Abingdon, Thames View)	<b>Support</b> – Children's safety on such a busy stretch of road

(60) Local resident, (Abingdon, Willow Brook)	<b>Support</b> – I'm believe there should have been one along time ago for the safety of the school children.
(61) Member of public, (Abingdon, Wilsham Road)	<b>Support</b> – Vital for the safe crossing of the road at the start and end of the school day.
(62) Rather not say, (Abingdon, Wootton Road)	<b>Support</b> – It's a matter n road with mostly school children using it
(63) As part of a group/organisation, (Abingdon, Ypres Way)	<b>Support</b> – Faringdon road is extremely busy at school times.
(64) Member of public, (Abingdon, Wordsworth Road)	<b>Support</b> – My child goes to larkmead and I have witnessed boys come off their bikes as cars go so fast
(65) Member of public, (Bayworth, Brumcombe Lane)	<b>Support</b> – My Son attends Larkmead school and has to cross Faringdon Road on his way too and from school. At these times of the day, there is a combination of commuter traffic, parents dropping children in cars, children on bikes and school buses, all of whom are travelling to Larkmead, St Helens, Abingdon School and John Mason. Faringdon Road is extremely busy and dangerous to cross. This crossing would improve the safety for lots of children and could also potentially help car drivers trying to get in and out of the schools as the traffic will be slower and stopping frequently.
(66) Member of public, (Garford)	<b>Support</b> – I have a daughter at Dt Helen's and St Katharine's School. From doing the school everyday, firstly cars are not going to 20mph speed limit, so the zebra crossing will make them more aware to slow down. There are groups of children trying to cross the road and cars generally will not stop for them , as if you stopped on one side you don't get commitment from the other side and will hold up the traffic more. The girls are walking to Abingdon school in the evenings to get the bus or walk into Abingdon and are unable to cross till much further turn whereas it's better to be on the other side of the road so they can cross at Spring Road too with the safety of a zebra crossing. I think it'll be a very good thing to go and should have been done already. We need to protect our children, especially now there are so many cars on the road.

<p>(67) Member of public, (Oxford, Rest Harrow)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – Essential added safety for students crossing between the 2 schools</p>
<p>(68) Member of public, (Parent from Larkmead school, Farringdon road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – My children regularly cross this road and it's not safe. Having a crossing there would make a huge difference to children's safety when crossing</p>
<p>(69) Local resident, (Shippon, Rookery Close)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – I used to walk to SHSK from Shippon every morning as I worked there and even as an adult it was extremely difficult to cross the road and usually relied on the goodwill of drivers to let me cross. Much needed for pupils walking from North Abingdon and travelling to Larkmead too.</p>
<p>(70) Local resident, (Wootton, Hawkins Way)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – Safety of children attending the schools and public getting to and from the bus stops</p>
<p>(71) Local resident, (Wootton, Mathews Way)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – Supporting due to agreement that safety goes first. It is a popular schooling area and therefore would make it easier for children/parents/caters to commute daily in safety.</p>
<p>(72) Local resident, (Abingdon, Bostock Road)</p>	<p><b>No objection</b> – To encourage school active commutes and reduce car speeds to the new 20mph speed limit.</p>
<p>(73) Local resident, (Abingdon, Curtyn Close)</p>	<p><b>No objection</b> – I have two daughters who, on a daily basis (twice a day) walk to / from Curtyn Close to the bus stops on Ock Street. At the moment there is not a safe crossing for them to cross the Farringdon Road to Spring Road. This road, even though recently dropped to a 20 mph zone has people speeding up and down, more often than not at the end of the school day racing (showing off), it is without doubt an extremely busy and ever increasingly dangerous road. As a result and more often than not I will choose to drop the girls off in the car rather than risk them crossing the road on their own, I would far rather remove another car from the road in the knowledge the girls are able to cross via a safe zebra crossing.</p>

<p>(74) As a business, (Abingdon, Faringdon Road)</p>	<p><b>No objection</b> – We are very much in support of this crossing..... something we have been hoping for for a very long time! Everything crossed that it does go ahead.</p> <p>All at St Helen and St Katharine School</p>
<p>(75) Local resident, (Abingdon, Kingston Close)</p>	<p><b>No objection</b> – It would make it much safer for our children.</p>
<p>(76) Local resident, (Evenlode Park)</p>	<p><b>No objection</b> – This will provide a safe crossing point especially for school traffic</p>
<p>(77) Local resident, (Shippon, Faringdon Road)</p>	<p><b>No objection</b> – There is a need for a crossing. Does it not conflict with the bus stop that is on the Larkmead school side</p>