

Divisions affected: *Kingston & Cumnor*

**CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT  
22 JUNE 2023**

**CUMNOR: CUMNOR HILL (BY ARNOLDS WAY) – 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 on Cumnor Hill by Arnolds Way as advertised.

**Executive summary**

2. The report presents responses to a statutory consultation on the proposed installation of a puffin crossing on Cumnor Hill as shown in **Annex 1**.
3. The aim of this proposed scheme is to address the safety concerns raised by Cumnor Parish Council and Local Councillor Judy Roberts around insufficient crossing facility at this location.

**Financial Implications**

4. Funding for the proposals will be met from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

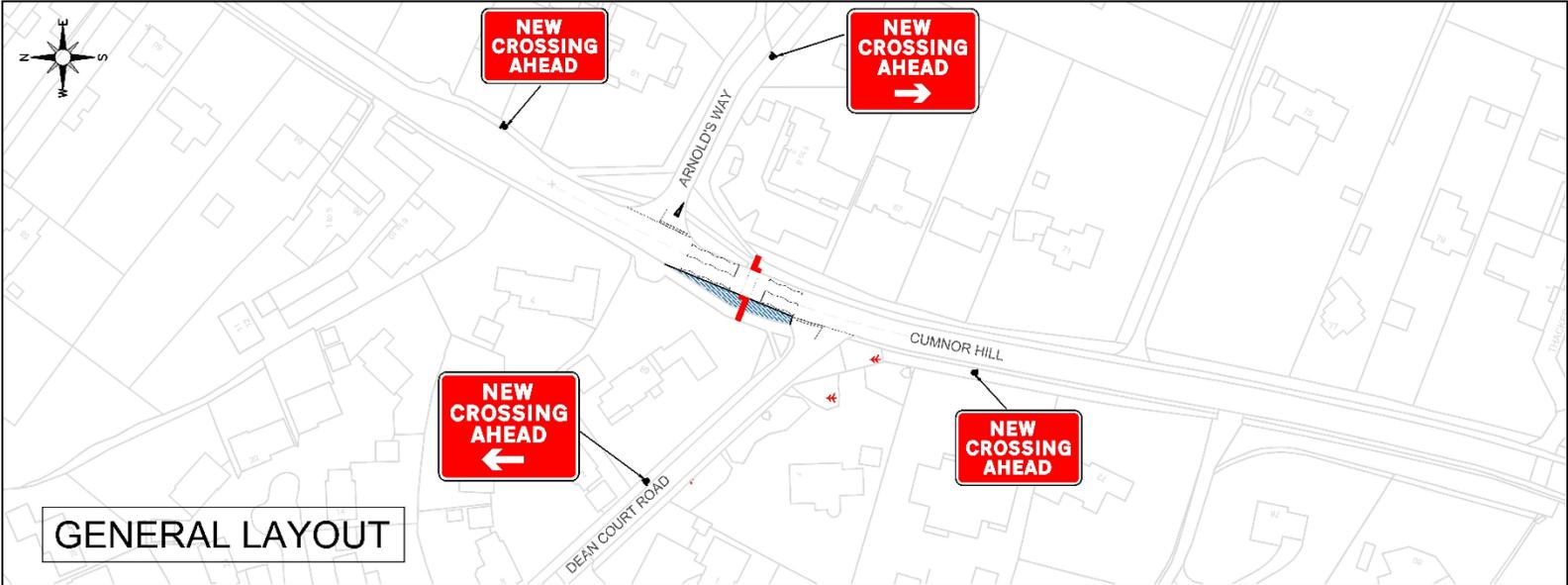
**Equality and Inclusion Implications**

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

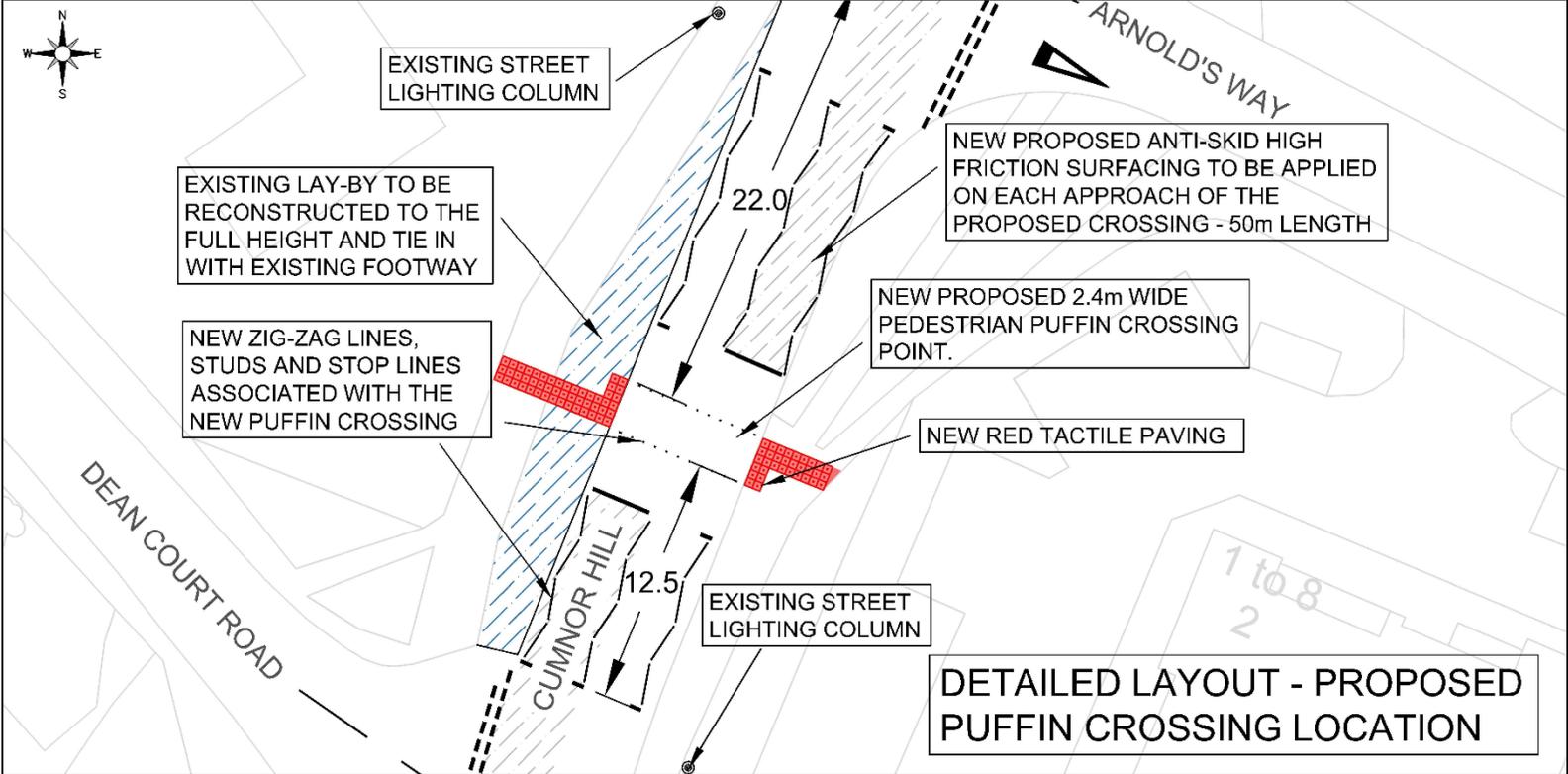
**Sustainability Implications**

6. The proposals would help facilitate walking and improve road safety in the vicinity.





GENERAL LAYOUT



DETAILED LAYOUT - PROPOSED PUFFIN CROSSING LOCATION

- NOTES:
1. All dimensions shown in metres unless stated otherwise.
  2. Do not scale from this drawing.
  3. This drawing is based on Ordnance Survey map and some inaccuracies may occur.

- KEY:
- EXISTING LAY-BY AREA TO BE RECONSTRUCTED
  - NEW HIGH FRICTION SURFACING
  - PROPOSED NEW TEMPORARY SIGN TO BE ERECTED FOR NO LONGER THAN 3 MONTHS

Rev	Date	Description	Drn	Chkd
0	01-02-23	FOR CONSULTATION	JA	LT
Revisions				
Drawing Originator				



Drawing Status: FOR CONSULTATION SAP Code

Project Name: CUMNOR HILL OXFORD

Title: LAYOUT PROPOSAL NEW PEDESTRIAN PUFFIN CROSSING  
Original drawing sheet is A3

Scale @A3	Drawn by	Checked by	Approved by
Not to scale	JA	LT	LT
	Drawn Date	Checked Date	Approved Date
	FEB 2023	03/02/23	06/02/23

Drawing Number	Rev

CMDHM17

ANNEX 2

RESPONDENT	COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	<b>No objection</b> – providing the necessary speed monitoring has taken place and current speeds support these proposals. This proposal full meets current design standards.
(2) Local County Cllr, (North Hinksey division)	<b>Support</b> - There was a serious accident hrtr involving a student from ther nearby secondary school. This is the crossing poiunt linking the pedestrian pathway from the Dean Court ward of Cumnor parish.
(3) Cumnor Parish Council	<b>Support</b> - Cumnor Parish Council fully supports the installation of a Puffin Crossing on Cumnor Hill which will make it safer and easier for Matthew Arnold School pupils and residents to cross safely especially during peak traffic times.
(4) Local group/organisation, (OXTRAG)	<b>Support</b> – Looks great, thank you for a safer crossing place for pedestrians
(5) Local group/organisation, (Unlimited Oxfordshire)	<b>Support</b> – I welcome the proposal for a new Puffin crossing on Cumnor Hill, approximately 22 metres SW of its junction with Arnold's Way.  However, on the approach from the SW, I suggest that the zigzag markings should be extended across the junction with Dean Court Road, because of the downhill gradient.
(6) Local resident, (Cumnor, Dean Court Road)	<b>Object</b> – even though I agree that a pedestrian crossing could be beneficial, I object to the installation of a Puffin style crossing.  Cumnor Hill has a moderate amount of traffic; however, I have never had to wait more than a minute (usually much shorter) for there to be a good break in the traffic, so that I am able to cross the road safely. I do agree that a pedestrian crossing would be beneficial for those who need longer to cross. A Zebra crossing would serve this purpose.

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	<p>I do not believe that the cost of installing and maintaining a Puffin crossing is good use of taxpayers' money, when a Zebra Crossing would cater for the needs of those who are finding it difficult to cross at the moment.</p> <p>Unfortunately, the positioning of this crossing, no matter what type of crossing is used, will be detrimental to our property. We live at no 4 Dean Court Road, with our back garden backing onto Cumnor Hill. We are probably the only house in miles where the back garden, used for leisure purposes for at least six months of the year, backs on to Cumnor Hill. The proposed Puffin Crossing is planned to cross at 68 Cumnor Hill, next door to our property. Any traffic brought to a halt by the pedestrian crossing will queue back down the hill to the north of the crossing, parallel to our property. The noise of the cars starting up again, especially trucks, will have a detrimental effect on our being able to enjoy the garden.</p> <p>A Puffin crossing will make this worse, as waiting for the lights to change to green will increase the number of cars that need to stop.</p> <p>The only way that a crossing, in the location proposed, will not affect our property and quality of life, is if a sound proof fence were to be erected.</p>
(7) Local resident, (Cumnor, Dean Court Road)	<p><b>Concerns</b> – We live on Dean Court Rd on the junction of Cumnor Hill. We are concerned that the proposed puffin crossing is too close to this junction. It will be tricky to pull out of our drive and onto Cumnor Hill safely when the crossing is being used. We fear the crossing could be dangerous for pedestrians, cyclists and cars turning into and out of Dean Court Rd sited at this close proximity to the junction.</p> <p>Turning out of our drive safely into Cumnor Hill requires caution because of the tricky lines of vision, a crossing may add to this. Could the crossing be sited further down the hill?</p> <p>The additional signage, street furniture etc presents a very urban look in a semi rural area and we are concerned about the visual impact. Could this be reduced in any way please?</p>
(8) Local resident, (Email response)	<p><b>Support</b> – Our feelings are that it is very necessary to have a puffin crossing. Cumnor Hill is dangerous to cross. As you know there are accidents from time to time and you do take your life in your hands when crossing Cumnor Hill at that particular point as the cars do not heed the 30 mph coming down the hill. They also do not seem to take into consideration that pedestrians are crossing the road at that particular point, usually to catch a bus which is going down the hill. The number of near misses there are with the school children trying to cross safely is unbelievable. Sadly I</p>

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	<p>feel that there will be a fatality one of these days and I do not hope that it takes an incident like that to make the case for a puffin crossing. Let us have one before that happens.</p> <p>If you are disabled in any way trying to cross Cumnor Hill is an absolute nightmare and very dangerous, so I reiterate, a puffin crossing is necessary.</p> <p>I have to say that it is not only cars, cyclists are also to blame, they appear to think it is their right to go as fast as they can down the Hill with complete disregard to other road users. I have also witnessed scooters, too, tearing down the hill, completely out of control.</p> <p>There appears to be no legislation to control cyclists and scooters either, but, that perhaps is another matter.</p>
<p>(9) Local resident, (Cumnor, Cumnor Hill)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> – Two things please to consider</p> <p>1 The siting of the crossing in the realignment of the road and path and possible inclusion of shrubbery and perhaps a roadside seat!</p> <p>2 Removal of excess vegetation and rubbish from the Cumnor Hill/Dean Court Road corner, with the provision of a rubbish bin</p>
<p>(10) Local Resident, (Cumnor, Cumnor Hill)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - Cumnor Hill is a busy road. Many children need to cross the road to get to the secondary school. There have been previous accidents at this point involving children. A new crossing will make this much safer for the children.</p>
<p>(11) Local Resident, (Oxford, Barn Close)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - Safety, slowing cars that drive too fast despite new 30mph limit,</p>
<p>(12) Member of public, (Cumnor, High Street)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - To make it safer for young people going to Matthew Arnold. There has already been multiple incidents in that road</p>

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(13) Local Resident, (Cumnor Hill, Kimmeridge Road)	<b>Support</b> - Improving safety, particularly for school children
(14) Local Resident, (Oxford, Dean Court Road)	<b>Support</b> - It will make the road safer to cross for children going to Matthew Arnold school.
(15) Local or County Cllr, (Botley, Hutchcomb)	<b>Support</b> - The community have been calling for a crossing here to ensure school children can walk to Matthew Arnold safely. It will also be well used by people accessing the bus stops and general walking routes. I fully support
(16) Local Resident, (Cumnor, Norreys Road)	<b>Support</b> - A crossing will increase the safety of all road users
(17) Local Resident, (Cumnor, Robsart Place )	<b>Support</b> - I live in the area and see how difficult the road is to cross. I have children and would feel more at ease knowing they can cross safely
(18) Local Resident, (Cumnor, Robsart Place)	<b>Support</b> - Safety for public
(19) Local Resident, (Cumnor, Kimmeridge Road)	<b>Support</b> - The hill is so busy and too fast (even with the recent 30mph limit) and located near to Matthew Arnold School. A lot of the children crossing the road to catch a bus or walk home are not paying enough attention when they cross causing concern for their safety
(20) Local Resident, (Cumnor, The Park)	<b>Support</b> - It makes crossing the road safer for children
(21) Local Resident, (Dean Court, Third Acre Rise)	<b>Support</b> - A safer route to school and to some of the main facilities for the 9,000 residents of the Botley Communities.
(22) Member of public, (Marcham, Haines Court)	<b>Support</b> - It has always concerned me that there is no safe crossing for children going to and from Matthew Arnold school. I have seen them dash across the road

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(23) Local Resident, (Cumnor, The Park)	<b>Support</b> - I am very much in support of the crossing. It will create an important crossing point for the school children to cross at
(24) Local Resident, (Oxford, Pinnocks Way)	<b>Support</b> - My daughter crosses this road every day on her way to school (coming up from Pinnocks Way up to Mathew Arnold school)
(25) Local Resident, (Cumnor, Cumnor Hill)	<b>Support</b> - I support this proposal as it will provide a safe crossing area for many people, in particular students at Matthew Arnold School. Cumnor Hill is a very busy road, particularly between 8am and 9am. As a cyclist who commutes to work from Cumnor into the city centre I often witness impatient drivers driving at inappropriate speeds and overtaking in a dangerous manner. Having to cross a road with these traffic conditions is difficult and has a high potential for a serious accident. A puffin crossing is well overdue.
(26) Local Resident, (Oxford, Poplar)	<b>Support</b> - This is a welcome and incredibly important addition. That stretch of the road is used by many pedestrians including young people walking to school. Without a safe crossing, the road is not accessible or safe for pedestrians. It is also not inclusive for those in wheelchairs or with buggies who need to cross the road to access public transport. I fully support this proposal and feel it is necessary to make public space accessible to all protected characteristics as per the Equality Act 2010.
(27) Local Resident, (Botley, Poplar)	<b>Support</b> - Cumnor Hill is dangerous and despite speed limits these are not observed. MA Schl pupils use this road to get to school. It will make the route safer for them. There are blind spots along the road which makes it dangerous for crossing. Long gap between Elms Rd crossing points and top of Cumnor Hill.
(28) Local Resident, (Botley, Eynsham Road)	<b>Support</b> - I am so pleased to hear you are putting a crossing in on Cumnor hill, it is desperately needed for school children accessing the local secondary school, we have had a few incidences where children have been seriously hurt on that road and a crossing is much needed.
(29) Local Resident, (Botley, Arnold's Way)	<b>Support</b> - Child safety for those coming to/from the school. I have seen many children cross dangerously there

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<p>(30) Local Resident, (Botley, Evelyn Close)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - I have children at Matthew Arnold school and they need somewhere safe to cross the road. There have been quite a few accident involving young children on that spot of road during the past few years.</p>
<p>(31) Local Resident, (Botley, Poplar Road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - Lots of children crossing, cars often go over 30 mph speed limit, very dangerous, long overdue to have a crossing here. I understand from other local residents that there have been road traffic accidents involving children on this road in the past. Need a safe place for pedestrians to cross. There isn't a crossing along the whole road despite loads of new houses being built.</p>
<p>(32) Local Resident, (Cumnor Hill, Dean Court Road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - I regularly use the Arnolds Way bus stop on Cumnor Hill and often find it difficult to cross safely. The visibility is not particularly good due to the bend in the road and sometimes traffic can't be seen until you are actually crossing.</p>
<p>(33) Local Resident, (Oxford, Pinnocks Way)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - Dangerous fast road near school and many houses. Would help slow down traffic and provide a safe place to cross</p>
<p>(34) Local Resident, (Cumnor, Cumnor Hill)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - I live just next to the proposed crossing - immediately by the school warning sign - and the current behaviour by drivers every morning is terrifying to watch. They honk children who are attempting to cross while barrelling down at far above the speed limit and I constantly worry that there will be another accident like the one that left the poor 13 year old boy with life changing head injuries just over a year ago. I understand that it's hard to see them where they cross because of the slight bend and that for cars going into down the descent makes them accelerate but never the less a crossing is really sorely needed and can't come soon enough.</p>
<p>(35) Local Resident, (Cumnor, Kimmeridge Road)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - Cumnor Hill is a very difficult road to cross, especially for children. There should be at least one signalled crossing to help children and families get to the schools safely.</p>
<p>(36) Local Resident, (Oxford, Cumnor Hill)</p>	<p><b>Support</b> - This crossing should provide a safe way for pupils on their daily journey to or from Matthew Arnold school to cross what can be a busy road at peak times; sadly there has been at least one accident and some near misses in the recent past, despite the "children crossing" sign a short way uphill of the proposed location. As a local resident</p>

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	with small children, I will also be glad of a way to cross safely with them on the way to the park or Brookes sports centre.
(37) Local Resident, (Oxford, Cumnor Hill)	<b>Support</b> - this is not a safe place to cross and lots of children cross here often recklessly
(38) Local Resident, (Cumnor, Norreys Road)	<b>Support</b> - So dangerous for children, adults and OAPs who all use this hill and the footpath on one side to cross the road to school, work and residential care homes. Too many accidents and near misses over the years for pedestrians and cyclists alike when crossing!