

Decision Record – Proposed upgrade of existing Zebra crossing to Puffin Crossing on A428 Hillmorton Road near Fisher Avenue, Rugby

Cabinet Portfolio Holder taking the decision	Cllr John Horner Community Safety
Date of Decision (not before 19 February 2016)	22 February 2016

Decision Taken

That the Portfolio Holder for Community Safety approves the installation of a Puffin crossing on A428 Hillmorton Road near Fisher Avenue, Rugby, as advertised in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 – Section 23.

Reasons for Decisions

Requests had been received from Councillors Roodhouse and Dodd, and local residents for the upgrade of an existing zebra crossing to a Puffin crossing to be located on the A428 Hillmorton Road near Fisher Avenue, Rugby.

Background Information

The primary purpose of the proposed Puffin crossing is to cater for the various pedestrian demands to cross the A428 Hillmorton Road. This crossing is one of the first projects to be delivered from the School Safety Zones and Routes programme, and has been identified as providing a safer link across the A428 Hillmorton Road to facilitate north to south links to access schools within the area, including Paddox Primary school and Ashlawn Academy.

This location had previously benefitted from an existing zebra crossing facility, with support from a School Crossing Patrol at school times. However, the Patrol has recently resigned due to ill health and was unable to be replaced. This crossing will provide a suitably safe alternative for parents and children to access various schools in the local area.

The site of the proposed Puffin crossing is located on the A428 Hillmorton Road, near Fisher Avenue, Rugby. Hillmorton Road is one of the main arterial routes into Rugby, and is heavily trafficked at peak times. It is subject to a 30mph speed limit by virtue of street lighting and frontage development.

The site for the Puffin crossing will be to the west of the junction with Fisher Avenue, as indicated on the plan in Appendix A of the published report. The area is predominantly residential. There are a number of commercial properties in the vicinity of the proposed crossing, including a row of shops/convenience stores located along Hillmorton Road to the east. Two schools lie close to the location: Ashlawn School Academy Trust (secondary) and Paddox Primary School. Paddox School has recently undergone significant development and has expanded its intake. Ashlawn Academy has also had major investment into its complex and facilities and now offers places to more than 1750 students ranging from 11 to 18 years of age.

The need for a Puffin crossing in the vicinity of the Fisher Avenue junction to accommodate the various demands for pedestrian movements across Hillmorton Road, includes:

- north to south links to access schools within the area, including Paddox Primary School and Ashlawn Academy
- links to access St Georges Church
- access to nearby shops
- access to pre-school provision held at St Georges Church
- the resignation the School Crossing Patrol.

When considering the justification for a controlled crossing, standard criteria based on the numbers of vehicles and pedestrians using a location are calculated. This calculation is known as the PV2 value. To reach the required criteria for a crossing, and comply with the current WCC policy for a puffin crossing the PV2 value should exceed 0.9×10^8 . In this location the PV2 value is 1.53×10^8 which fully meets these criteria.

Financial Implications

Capital funding for School Safety Zones and Routes was agreed at the Budget setting meeting in February 2015. This scheme will be fully funded from this budget at a cost of £65,000.

Report Author	Carolyn Burrows
Head of Service	Graeme Fitton
Strategic Director	Monica Fogarty
Portfolio Holder	Councillor Les Caborn

Checklist

Urgent matter?	No
Confidential or Exempt? (State the category of exempt information)	No
Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?	No

List of Reports considered - please include link to report

Link to published proposed decision report:

<https://democratic.warwickshire.gov.uk/cm5/CalendarofMeetings/tabid/128/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/645/Meeting/3328/Committee/549/Default.aspx>

List of Background Papers

Objection

Members and officers consulted or informed – please include any comments

Portfolio Holders – Councillor John Horner
All Strategic Directors
Legal – Ian Marriott,
Finance – Liz Firmstone
Equality – Belinda Blake
Democratic Services – Paul Williams

Communities OSC – party spokes:

Councillors Johnson, Clark, Boad, Lea