

**ANGUS COUNCIL****ROADS COMMITTEE****11 JUNE 1998****ASSESSMENT OF PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS****REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF ROADS****ABSTRACT**

This report presents the results of an assessment of the outstanding requests for pedestrian crossing facilities in Angus as well as updating the Committee on the situation regarding other crossings.

**1 RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Committee agree to

- (i) provide pedestrian crossings at Reform Street, Kirriemuir and Academy Street, Forfar.
- (ii) renew the Pedestrian Crossing at the shopping centre at High Street, Monifieth.
- (iii) abandon the proposal to provide a pedestrian crossing on Dundee Road, Forfar and consider the possibility of other lower cost measures.

**2. INTRODUCTION**

The sites at Kirriemuir and Forfar have been investigated following concerns about pedestrian safety and it is recommended that pedestrian crossings be installed. The Pelican Crossing at Monifieth is approximately 20 years old and requires renewal.

The current situation regarding the progress on other crossings is detailed

### 3 **DETAILS**

#### A **Reform Street, Kirriemuir**

The Local Member raised concerns about pedestrian safety on Reform Street, Kirriemuir at The Roods. Surveys have shown that there are large numbers of pedestrians crossing Reform Street at this point to walk along the Little Roods which is pedestrianised. For the safety of pedestrians it is recommended that a puffin crossing be installed. The design will include junction changes in the form of road narrowings.

#### B **Academy Street, Forfar**

Following investigations, Academy Street, Forfar has been identified as requiring a pedestrian crossing. As well as school children crossing the road, pedestrians cross the road to the Abbeygate supermarket. The supermarket car park is due for expansion and is to include a pedestrian walkway and a footway widening on part of Academy Street. It is proposed to site the pedestrian crossing outside the supermarket pedestrian walkway where the footway will be widened. Subject to the Committee's approval a puffin crossing will be installed using equipment purchased during the 1997-1998 financial year.

#### C **High Street, Monifieth**

The existing crossing in the High Street, Monifieth, outside the shopping centre, is approximately 20 years old and is coming to the end of its useful life. It is intended that the Pelican Crossing be upgraded to a new Puffin Crossing using equipment purchased during the 1997 - 1998 financial year.

## D Other Crossings

The crossings at A923, Muirhead; Swan Street, Brechin; Keptie Road, Arbroath; and Montrose Road, Arbroath which commenced at the end of the 1997-1998 financial year require to be completed during the current financial year.

Also, the Toucan Crossing at Newhame Road, Montrose requires to be completed.

Report No. 462/97 "The Assessment of Pedestrian Crossings" was approved by Committee in April 1997 and it was agreed 'inter alia' that the provision of a Pedestrian Crossing at Dundee Road, Forfar be investigated and if practical be implemented.

It was proposed to provide a pedestrian crossing in the vicinity of the Co-op on Dundee Road. However, design difficulties have caused a review of the proposal.

Dundee Road remains one of the main roads into Forfar. There are not high numbers of pedestrians crossing the road but, at peak times in particular, traffic volumes on Dundee Road cause difficulties for pedestrians trying to cross. Observation has shown that most pedestrians desire to cross the road in the vicinity of the Co-op shop. It was therefore proposed to provide a Pedestrian Crossing outside the Co-op. If the crossing was to be located further away from the Co-op, the number of pedestrians who would use the crossing would be much reduced and would therefore reduce the justification for its provision.

Because of different levels in the road and footway there is only one suitable location which is immediately outside the Co-op. Unfortunately this is near the mouth of the junction and required a build-out to the footway to accommodate the crossing. The design also included the removal of the existing island in the centre of the junction of Lentlands Road and Old Halkerton Road. There is however, Statutory Undertakers' plant in the island, the cost of altering which proved prohibitive. Redesign that did not include alterations to the island and diversion of Statutory Undertakers' plant has proved to be difficult.

In addition, a resident living immediately opposite the Co-op raised concerns about being unable to stop on Dundee Road to access his/her house.

Overall, therefore, because of the prohibitive cost of alterations to Statutory Undertakers' plant, low numbers of pedestrians crossing the road and neighbours objections, it is considered that the proposal should be abandoned.

It may be possible, where the road is wide enough, to provide pedestrian refuges to assist pedestrians to cross the road. These pedestrian refuges would be provided with tactile paving in the centre and at the kerb edge to assist the partially sighted to cross the road. This option will therefore be investigated.

#### 4 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

##### (a) **Capital**

Two sets of Puffin Crossings and one set of Toucan Crossing equipment were purchased in 1997/98 to help ensure the timeous progress of the 1998/99 programme. It is proposed to use one set of Puffin Crossing equipment at Academy Street, Forfar and one at High Street, Monifieth.

The summarised cost in financial year 1998/99 of implementing the identified programme is as follows:-

	£
Installation of Pelican Crossings at Academy Street, Forfar and High Street, Montrose	22,500
Purchase of Pelican Crossing equipment and installation at Reform Street, Kirriemuir	21,000
Completing the installation of Crossings at Swan Street, Brechin; Keptie Road, Arbroath; Montrose Road, Arbroath and A923, Muirhead	31,500
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>75,000</u></b>

The total proposed expenditure under the Pedestrian Crossings and Traffic Signals budget is therefore £75,000 against all allocation of £60,000. A compensatory reduction of £15,000 will therefore require to be made in the Road Safety budget.

Installation of the Toucan Crossing at Newhame Road, Montrose will cost £10,000. This will be met from the Cycling/Pedestrian Facilities Capital Budget of £50,000 for 1998/99.

**(b) Revenue**

Additional maintenance costs for the new equipment (excluding the maintenance costs for the installations previously reported and approved) would amount to £2,000 per annum and this would require to be allowed for in future years' Revenue Budgets for structural and cyclic maintenance.

Loan charges would amount to £5,109 per annum over 20 years (excluding the loan charges associated with the completion of the previously approved crossings).

## 5 CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, the Director of Law and Administration, the Chief Constable and the Director of Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this report. The Chief Constable will be consulted again on the final design and location.

Dr Bob McLellan  
DIRECTOR OF ROADS

### NOTE

The following background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (and not containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above Report:-

Report No 246/96 The Assessment and Design of Pedestrian Crossings - Angus Council Roads Committee 25 April 1996.

Report No 692/96 The Assessment of Pedestrian Crossings - Angus Council Roads Committee 29 August 1996.

Report No 462/97 The Assessment of Pedestrian Crossings - Angus Council Roads Committee 24 April 1997.

Report No 113/98 and Report No 122/98 Purchase of Pedestrian Crossing Equipment and The Assessment of Pedestrian Crossings - Angus Council Roads Committee 29 January 1998.