

ANGUS COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 25 FEBRUARY 2020

WESTWAY, ARBROATH – PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE

ABSTRACT

This report presents the findings of an investigation carried out regarding the potential of a pedestrian crossing on Westway, Arbroath.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) notes the current difficulties which pedestrians, particularly the elderly, encounter when crossing the Westway, Arbroath;
- (ii) notes the results of a recent site survey carried out following the request to investigate the possibility of installing a signal controlled pedestrian crossing on the Westway, Arbroath;
- (iii) determines whether or not, in principle, a pedestrian crossing shall be provided on the Westway potentially to the south of its junction with Arbirlot Road;
- (iv) in case of the Committee agreeing to provide a pedestrian crossing on the Westway, further agree to consultation with the community on the most appropriate site.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS LOCAL OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN/CORPORATE PLAN

This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Angus Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and Locality Plans:

ECONOMY

- An inclusive and sustainable economy

PLACE

- Safe, secure, vibrant and sustainable communities
- An enhanced, protected and enjoyed natural and built environment

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 A request was received from a member of the public via a local member for consideration to be given to the provision of a “Puffin” style signal controlled pedestrian crossing on the Westway, Arbroath in the vicinity of Arbirlot Road. Local residents have reported experiencing difficulties crossing the Westway due to a number of factors, primarily, high traffic volumes and high traffic speeds.

4. DETAILS

- 4.1 A detailed investigation was undertaken of the suggested site in accordance with the policy for the assessment and provision of signal controlled pedestrian crossings as approved by Infrastructure Services Committee at its meeting on 22 January 2008 (Report No. 95/08). The

assessment is based on a formula “ADPV²” which takes into account pedestrian numbers, vehicle numbers and vehicle speed.

- 4.2 An analysis of road traffic accident statistics shows that there have been no injury accidents recorded within the 100 metres survey area of the suggested location during the most recent three year recording period (13 October 2016 to 12 October 2019).
- 4.3 A survey of vehicle and pedestrian movements was carried out on the Westway in the vicinity of Arbirlot Road and Arbirlot Road West, over a 10 hour standard assessment period (08:00 – 18:00). The survey was carried out on a weekday during school term time in December 2019 and was taken over a standard distance of 100m, centred on the most prevalent pedestrian desire line between the two junctions (see **Appendix 1**).
- 4.4 The survey data when input into the ADPV² calculation (see **Appendix 2**) shows that the location falls marginally short of the threshold figure (ADPV²) of 1.0 (x10⁸). The 0.923 figure does not currently immediately justify the provision of a signal controlled pedestrian crossing in accordance with the agreed policy.
- 4.5 The pedestrian crossing point suggested by the resident for a signalised crossing is currently provisioned with pedestrian islands, sits on a recognised route to school and connects to the shared use core path network, which links to Muirfield Primary School. A school crossing patroller operates from this location with high volumes of children crossing to both Muirfield Primary School and the nearby Arbroath High School. A potential design has been developed and is shown in **Appendix 3**.
- 4.6 If a signalised pedestrian crossing is provided at this location the school crossing patroller would, in due course, be no longer required.
- 4.7 The suggested site is therefore one of the highest used pedestrian crossing areas on this road and therefore records a relatively higher value for the pedestrian movements in the ADPV² calculation. However, if Committee are minded to agree to the proposal of a pedestrian crossing, it is proposed that a wider community involvement notably through public notices and the council’s ‘Have Your Say’ website be undertaken to seek a wider view of the location for a new crossing. Alternative locations may change the value of ADPV² calculation and thereby the justification of a crossing at a particular location due to the dependency on the pedestrian movements. Detailed examination and further surveys would be required for each location. A further report would be brought to Committee on the outcome.
- 4.8 The PUFFIN (Pedestrian User-Friendly Intelligent) crossing is now the most commonly employed type of signal controlled pedestrian crossing. Pedestrian detection is used to vary the length of the pedestrian green period, giving pedestrians the time they need to cross. By replacing the flashing amber period with a steady red signal to vehicular traffic, the Puffin gives pedestrians (particularly older people and those with mobility difficulties) a greater sense of protection compared with a Pelican crossing. The pedestrian signals are normally mounted on the nearside on primary poles and are positioned to allow pedestrians to watch approaching traffic, while keeping the pedestrian signal in their field of view. This is particularly helpful for those people having visually impairment using crossings who may find difficulty in clearly discerning signals mounted on the far side of the road.
- 4.9 The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) requires the Council to give “Public Notice” of its intention to establish, alter or remove a pedestrian crossing. The Council is also required by the statute to consult with the Chief Constable regarding any proposals.
- 4.10 The Committee are asked to consider the matter above in relation to the council’s policy and determine if a crossing should be provided. Should the Committee agree to the provision of a signal controlled pedestrian crossing and associated works on the Westway, then it is suggested that the location would be subject to community involvement and a further report to Committee. It is proposed that the installation would be undertaken within the financial year 2020/21.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The estimated cost to install a “puffin” style signal controlled pedestrian crossing, including associated works on the Westway to the south of its junction with Arbirlot Road is £30,000.

The final project costs would be determined based on the community input and the actual location with costs of the community involvement along the installation funded from the 2020/21 Traffic Signals Capital Budget.

- 5.2 There will be ongoing maintenance costs associated with the establishment of a signal controlled pedestrian crossing, of approximately £400 per annum, which would be required to be met from the Revenue Budget for Traffic Signals maintenance, within the overall Roads Revenue Budget.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Legal & Democratic Services and the local Police Commander for Tayside Division have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

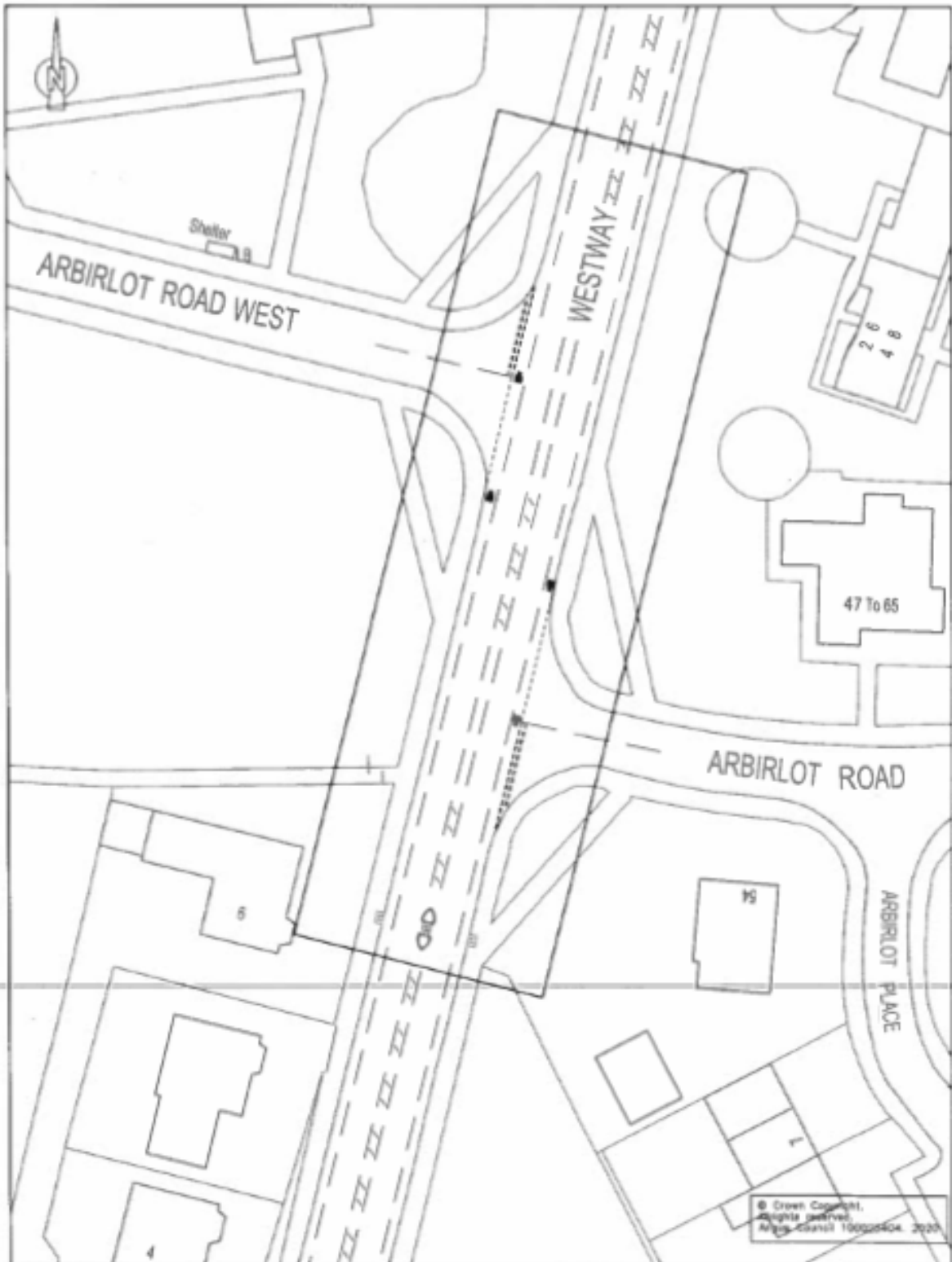
NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

- Report No. 95/08: The assessment and provision of Pedestrian Crossings

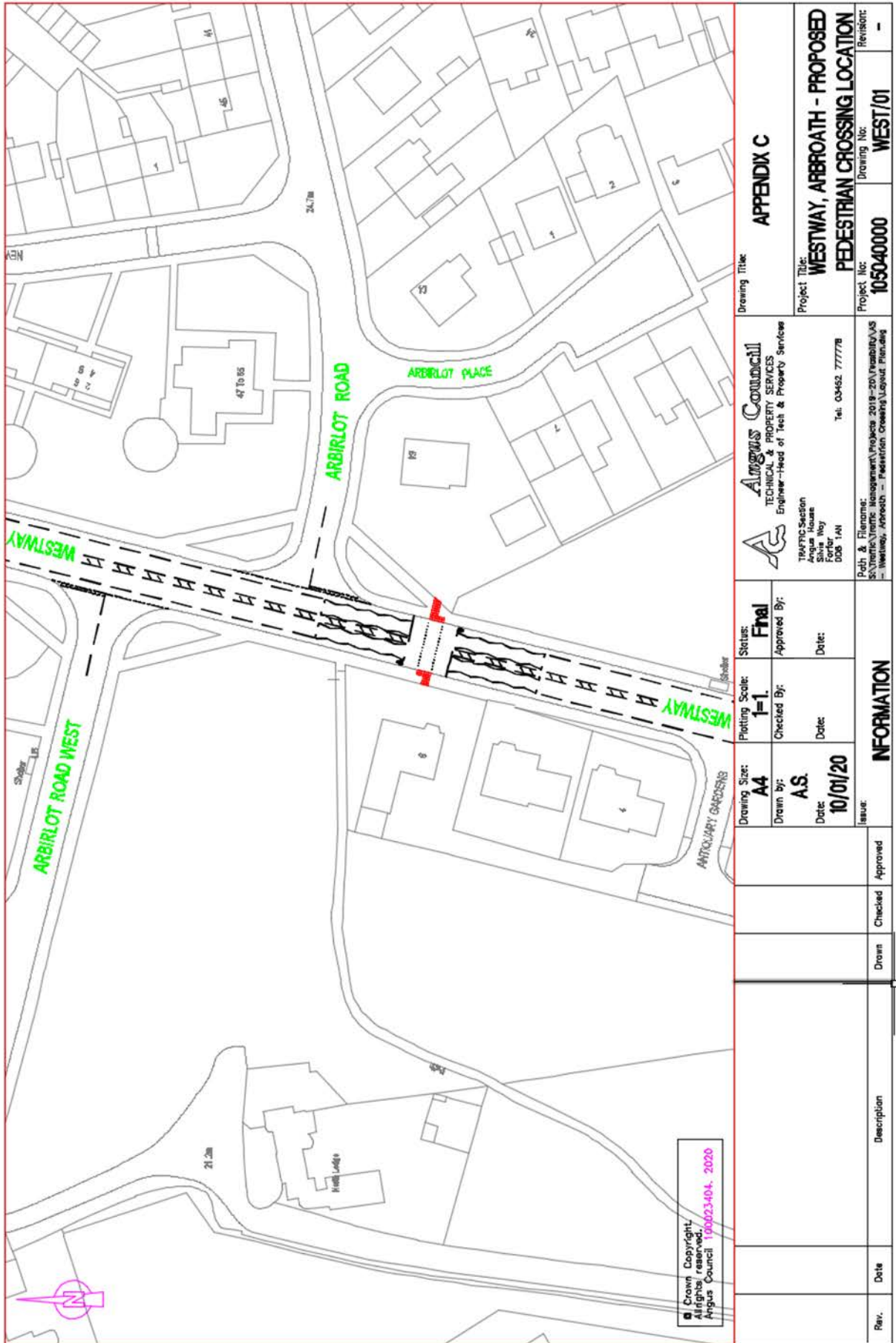
REPORT AUTHOR: Ian Cochrane, Director of Infrastructure
EMAIL DETAILS: CommunitiesBusinessSupport@angus.gov.uk

List of Appendices:

- Appendix 1: Westway, Arbroath - Pedestrian Crossing Assessment Location Plan
- Appendix 2: Vehicle & Pedestrian Survey Results
- Appendix 3: Westway, Arbroath – Potential Pedestrian Crossing Location



Drawing Size: A4	Plotting Scale: 1:1	Status: Final	 Angus Council TECHNICAL & PROPERTY SERVICES Engineer-lead of Tech & Property Services	Drawing Title: APPENDIX A		
Drawn by: A.B.	Checked By:	Approved By:		TRAFFIC Section County Buildings Market Street Forfar DD8 3WJ Tel: 01307 461480 Fax: 01307 473388	Project Title: WESTWAY, ARBROATH - PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ASSESSMENT LOCATION PLAN	
Date: 10/01/20	Date:	Date:	Paths & Filenames: S:\Traffic\Traffic Management\Projects 2019-22\Footpaths\48 Westway, Arbroath - Pedestrian Crossing Location Plan.dwg	Project No: 105040000	Drawing No: WEST/00	Revision: 0
INFORMATION						



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Rev.	Date	Description	Drawn	Checked	Approved

Drawing Title: APPENDIX C	
Project Title: WESTWAY, ARBROATH - PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING LOCATION	
Project No: 105040000	Drawing No: WEST/01
Revison: -	

Angus Council TECHNICAL & PROPERTY SERVICES Engineer-Head of Tech & Property Services TRAFFIC SECTION Angus House 100 High Wyke Forfar DD8 1AN Tel: 03452 777778	Status: Final Approved By: _____ Date: _____
Path & Filenames: SA\Traffic\Traffic Management\Projects 2019-20\Westway\AS -- Westway, Arbroath -- Pedestrian Crossing Layout Planning	Plotting Scale: 1=1 Checked By: _____ Date: _____
Drawing Size: A4 Drawn by: AS Date: 10/01/20	Issue: INFORMATION