

Pedestrian Crossings

The design of controlled pedestrian crossing facilities (Puffin, Toucan, Pegasus and Zebra) will be in accordance with all relevant current standards and will take into account all current design guidance. Any departure from current design standards and any significant departure from current design guidance must be approved by the Service Director, Infrastructure Management & Operations.

Choosing which crossing is most appropriate and indeed where it should go is a sometimes difficult job as there are many competing demands and criteria related to safety and amenity that must be fulfilled in order for the crossing to be well used and beneficial to the travelling public.

A PUFFIN CROSSING is a signal controlled pedestrian crossing where the lights controlling the pedestrians are on the near side of the road. The system also utilises sensors which detect the presence of pedestrians waiting at the crossing and as they are crossing the road. If after pushing the button the pedestrian decides to cross before the 'green man' appears, the sensor detects this movement and can automatically cancel the requested 'demand' if there is no one else waiting to cross.

A TOUCAN CROSSING is a signal controlled pedestrian crossing that also allows bicycles to be ridden across.

A PEGASUS CROSSING is a signalised pedestrian crossing with special consideration for horse riders. At a minimum, these crossings are in the form of a pelican crossing but simply have two control panels, one at the normal height for pedestrians or dismounted riders, and another one two metres above the ground for the use of mounted riders.

A ZEBRA CROSSING is a pedestrian crossing consisting of alternating dark and light stripes on the road surface and belisha beacons (flashing amber globes on posts). These provide suitable crossing points where pedestrian flows are light and vehicle speeds low. Good visibility is essential. There is a risk that pedestrians feel they have absolute priority whereas some drivers may not observe zebra crossings in the same way that they would comply with traffic lights.

Requests for controlled crossings are assessed against two documents produced by the Department for Transport. These are Local Transport Note 1/95 "The Assessment of Pedestrians Crossings" and Local Transport Note 2/95 "The Design of Pedestrian Crossings". These documents can be found by clicking on the highlighted documents on the Department for Transport website. <http://www.dft.gov.uk/>

The level of need for a crossing will need to be assessed by:

1. Measuring the degree of conflict between pedestrians crossing the road and the two-way traffic flow and
2. Taking into account the following factors
 - The age and ability of pedestrians
 - Any suppressed demand
 - The different types of vehicle in the flow of traffic
 - The length of time pedestrians have to wait to cross
 - The width of the road
 - The speed of traffic
 - The pedestrian injury accident record at the site

Funding opportunities for improvements to the public road network are available via either the County Council's Local Highway Improvement (LHI) initiative or by third party funding.

http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/info/20081/roads_and_pathways/118/improving_highways

Third party funding would need to cover the cost of the assessment, procuring and installing the measure and, in some cases, any ongoing operating costs would also need to be covered.

The provision of developer funded pedestrian crossing facilities will be sought, through the planning process, at suitable locations.