HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT GROUP (HIG) Scheme Appraisal Form

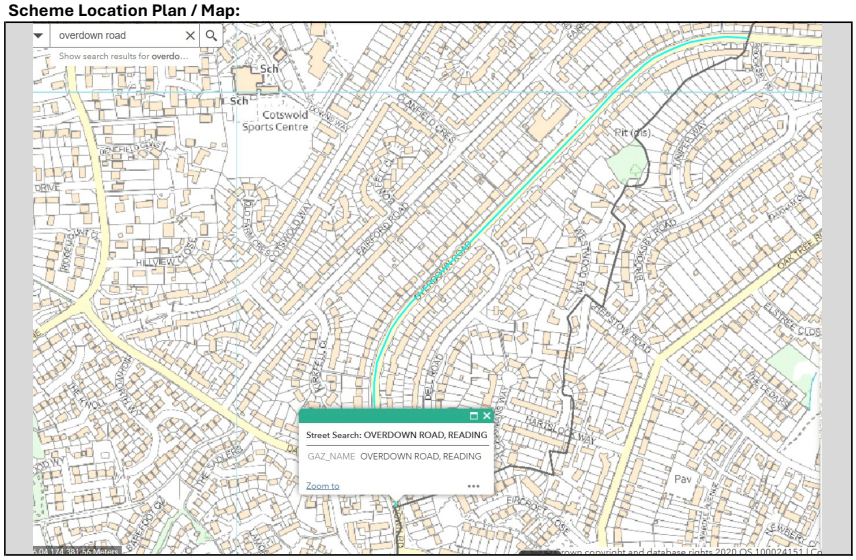
REFERENCE TITLE	*Overdown Road pedestrian crossings*
Month Raised	*August*
Date of Initial Response	*August*
Officer Responsible	*Gareth Dowding*
Requested By	*MP Olivia Bailey*
Estimated Cost (Low/Medium/High)	*HIGH*
Officer Time (Low/Medium/High)	*MEDIUM*
Project Duration (Low/Medium /High)	*HIGH*

Scheme Request Description including benefits:

Overdown Road is split between Reading Borough and West Berkshire, with the section that is most used by people crossing the road – between Brooksby Road and Dark Lane in West Berkshire. Of the people that completed my survey, 90% felt that a pedestrian crossing point would help make crossing the road safer. Older residents have told me about concerns crossing the road to go to and from the shops and families and young people have shared their experiences of difficulties crossing Overdown Road when going to and from school at Denefield, Westwood Farm and Downsway.

I know that councillors for Kentwood Ward on Reading Borough Council have supported calls for a crossing on the section of Overdown Road that is in Reading Borough, but I am not aware of West Berkshire Council having done so. I would therefore ask that WBC look at putting in place a crossing that would allow residents to cross safely to get to and from the shops and local schools.

Scheme Location Plan / Map:



Officer Comments and Associated Risks

The Speed Limit is 30mph and the area is illuminated with streetlights. The carriageway is formed of standard carriageway widths (typically 3.5m wide lanes) with traffic calming features. Residential area with most properties having dropped kerbs for vehicle access to private off-street parking. Carriageway is tree lined (often large mature trees). Large car park and bus layby by the shops. It may be difficult to fit a controlled crossing in around the existing highway constraints.

Officer Recommendation and Justification

Review accident data and speed compliance data. Undertake user and traffic survey. Develop design to identify what could be provided with regard to improved crossing facilities or include a pedestrian refuge island to allow users to cross in two stages. This would be added to next financial year works programme.

HIG Recommendation (Support / Defer / Do not support)	**Date of Recommendation**
Click here to enter text	*Click here to enter date*
Portfolio Holder Decision	**Date of Decision**
Click here to enter text	*Click here to enter date*