

From: Cllr Alan Turner <cllr.a.turner@aberdeenshire.gov.uk>
Sent: 06 November 2024 10:35
To: chair@stonehavenc.org.uk
Subject: Roads - Dunnottar School - Update
Attachments: School Walk Route Dunnottar Primary School.docx

David,

At the last SDCC meeting, the matter of roads around/near to Dunnottar Primary School was brought up. During the SDCC meeting, I stated that I previously had taken up these matter for the Dunnottar Parent Council (DPC), and for a while now, I had been in discussion with officers etc.

One of the matters was concerning the walking route to the school and potential for new crossing(s), which again I said I have been pursuing with officers. As an update for SDCC on that, please note the attached report which is from the Road Safety Team.

The Road Safety team were asked to review the walk route from the Braehead Development in Stonehaven to Dunnottar School.

The outcome is that a pedestrian crossing assessment will be carried out at the location described in the report. The survey for this site is in the process of being commissioned and I will be able to advise on timescales for the assessment to be completed once I have heard back from the officers etc.

I will also say that this information has been shared with all the other ward 18 councillors and with Dunnottar Primary School. Over time I will provide further updates on these traffic related matters to the SDCC. I will though continue to communicate info firstly to the Dunnottar Parent Council and the other ward 18 councillors.

Regards,

Cllr Alan Turner
Stonehaven & Lower Deeside
Member of the Kincardine & Mearns Area Committee
Chair of the Infrastructure Services Committee
Mob : 07788193184
Email : cllr.a.turner@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

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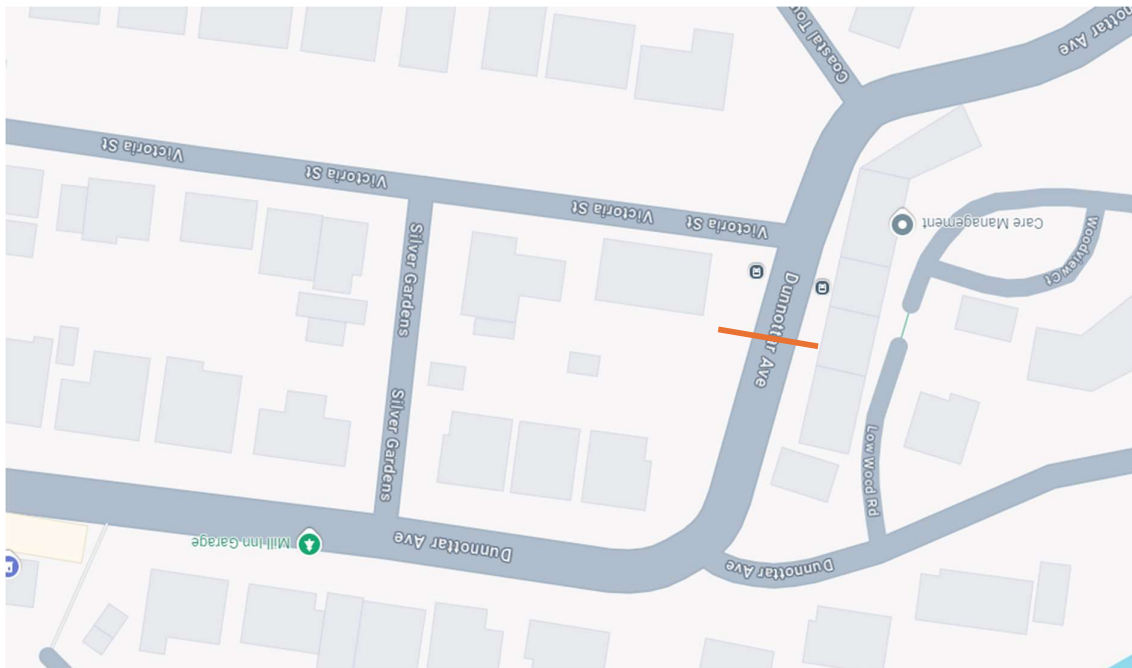
Dh'fhaodadh fiosrachadh sochaire, a tha a-mhàin airson an neach gu bheil am post-dealain air a chur, a bhith an seo. Ma tha thu air am post-dealain fhaighinn mar mhearachd, gabh ar leisgeul agus cuir fios chun an neach a chuir am post-dealain agus dubh às am post-dealain an dèidh sin. 'S e beachdan an neach a chuir am post-dealain a tha ann an gin sam bith a thèid a chur an cèill agus chan eil e a' ciallachadh gu bheil iad a' riochdachadh beachdan Chomhairle Shiorrachd Obar Dheathain.

School Walk Route Dunnottar Primary School

From Braehead development:

The lack of footway connectivity on the east side of Dunnottar Avenue at the pedestrian crossing requires pedestrians from the Braehead development to cross at this location. However, this leaves the pedestrians on the western footway when walking towards the school, requiring a further crossing to be made to facilitate onward travel to the school through either Victoria Street or continuing along Dunnottar Avenue towards the school.

In order to minimise the amount of road crossings required by pedestrians on the route, ideally they should cross in the section between the bend at the coastal route and the bend at the junction where the Invercarron Resource Centre is located (orange mark on plan). There are currently dropped kerbs and tactile paving in this section that can be used to cross.

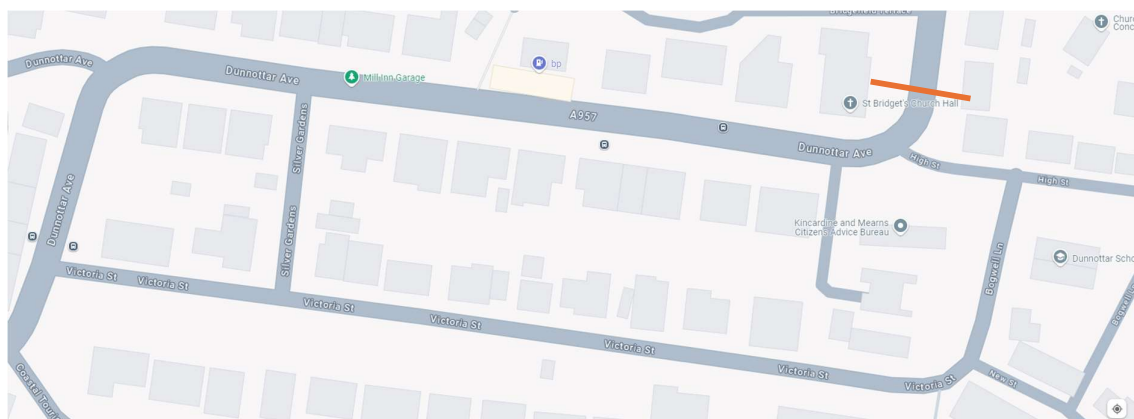


As you are aware the removal of the crossing patroller service did not have any contingency funding to provide alternative crossings and that it is the parent or carers responsibility to ensure that their charges get to school safely. However, as this location could present difficulties for pedestrians, it will be investigated for inclusion in the pedestrian crossing programme and if installing a crossing is practicable it will be assessed under the Councils standard process for pedestrian crossings and ranked against other sites throughout Aberdeenshire, with the highest ranked sites taken forward where funding is identified.

There are numerous site constraints that will need to be overcome if a crossing was to be installed at this location, including meeting visibility requirements due to the bends at either end of this section of carriageway, proximity of junctions, 2no. bus stops and a driveway. The only way to fit in a crossing would be to remove or relocate the bus stops, alternative locations or removal would need to be agreed with the PTU.

In the first instance we intend to carry out a traffic count to establish vehicle numbers and then 'reverse engineer' the crossing calculation to determine the number of pedestrians required to meet the PV2 value for a formal crossing. If it looks likely that the numbers required to meet the target is achievable then discussion with PTU regarding the removal/relocation of the bus stops will be taken forward. If it is determined that removal/relocation of the bus stops is an option then this site will be added to the crossing log for a full crossing assessment to be carried out. Assessments are carried out by a third party and tend to be on a bi-annual basis, dependent upon the number of crossing requests received. It is important to note that even if our process determines the requirement for a controlled pedestrian crossing, it may be a number of years before it can be constructed.

The alternative to not crossing at this location would necessitate multiple crossings including crossing the junction with Dunnottar Ave to the west, then walking along Dunnottar Ave on the southern side of the carriageway and either crossing to the northern footway or continuing along the southern footway and needing to cross the accesses to the petrol filling station before needing to cross to the northern side of Dunnottar Ave or crossing at Bridgefield and then onwards to the school. A crossing assessment was carried out at St Bridget's church during 2023 and it did not meet criteria for a formal crossing.



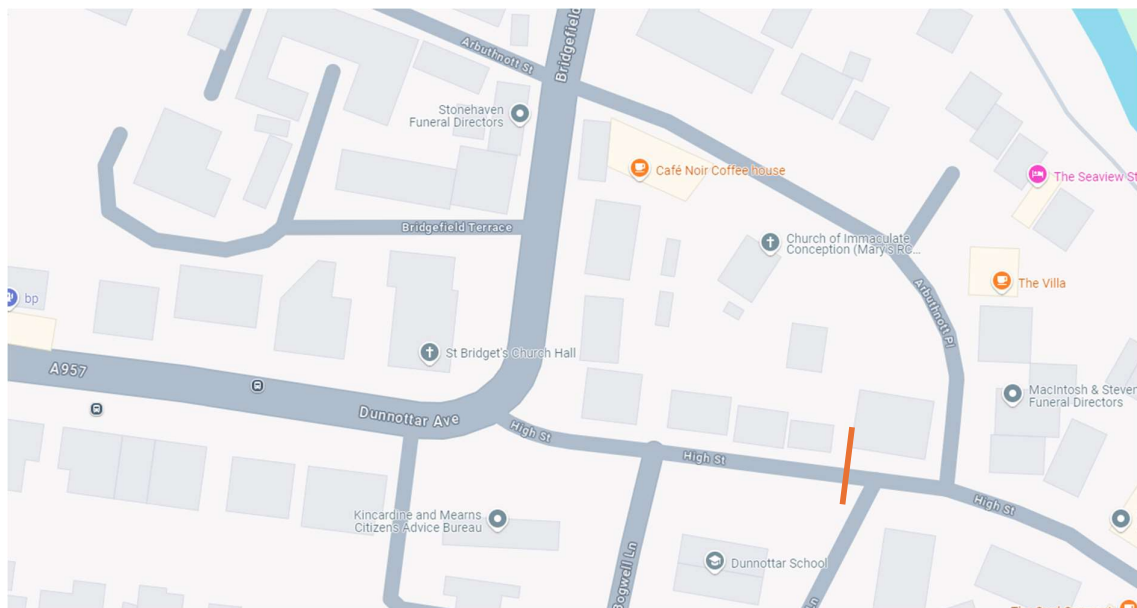
We have ruled out a crossing on the east / west section of Dunnottar Ave as it would be difficult to find a location on Dunnottar Ave to locate a crossing due to the residential driveways and the need to remove substantial parking in front of the properties to provide a safe crossing with good intervisibility of crossing users and drivers. Additionally, this option does not remove the requirement to cross the side road to the west.

Walk route from the town centre

When walking to Dunnottar Primary from the town centre pedestrians can utilise the pedestrian crossing at Cameron Street to get on to the eastern side of Bridgefield.

As mentioned previously, a crossing survey was carried out at St Bridgets Hall and it did not meet the PV2 score required for progressing a formal crossing, however, there are opportunities to be on the eastern side of Bridgefield negating the need to cross at this location.

From the eastern side of Bridgefield, the pedestrians can either walk around the quieter Arbuthnott Place route to High Street and then cross or walk along Bridgefield, turn into High St before crossing as High Street carries far fewer vehicles than Dunnottar Ave and is within a well observed mandatory 20mph speed limit.



From mountain to sea

Roads and Infrastructure Services Communication Team

16th October 2024

Confirm Enquiry 863553 - A957 heading to A92 at Stonehaven Speed Restrictions

Dear Mr Mills-Bishop

I refer to your correspondence in which you asked about the speed on the A957 heading towards the A92.

We spoke with local road and safety colleagues about your request here and they stated that they have no plans to make any changes to speeds in this location. There have been no recorded collisions in this location for the past 10 years and recorded speeds from our Speed Compliance Tool show average vehicle speeds in this location to be within acceptable limits. As such, while the team will monitor this area for additional changes if required, nothing is required currently. However, if you feel as though vehicles are driving in a dangerous or inconsiderate manner then we would suggest you inform Police Scotland as this would be considered an enforcement issue.

We hope we have answered your enquiry adequately. If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us. If you wish to further discuss this matter please use the enquiry number located in the email subject line.

Regards,

Roads and Infrastructure Communications Team
Roads and Infrastructure Services