

## Road Safety Audit – Stage 1 & 2 combined

Proposed Housing Development, Crossings Close, Cleator Moor

SNG Architecture

Ref: K39555.RSAS2/001b

Version	Date	Prepared By	Checked By	Approved By
Original	23 <sup>rd</sup> August 2022	R Warwick	D Heron	R Warwick
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## 4. INTRODUCTION

RG Parkins & Partners Ltd were appointed to undertake a Stage 1 & 2 combined Road Safety Audit on proposed housing development, off Crossings Close, Cleator Moor. The existing public highways are maintained by Cumbria County Council.

The audit was undertaken on date, by Rob Warwick (BSc Hons GMICE) and Dave Heron (BSc CEng MICE MCIHT). The weather was clear, bright, and warm. Traffic was free flowing.

The brief was to consider the proposed development access off Crossings Close, and the roads and footways within the site which are to remain private. Cumbria County Council in their initial responses to the scheme raised concerns over pedestrian movements to and from the existing Bus Stops on Whitehaven Road given the volume of traffic.

Crashmap.co.uk shows no record of any incident on Crossings Close, or the junction with B5295 Whitehaven Road, within the last 5 years.

The audit was undertaken on the basis of the following drawing by SNG Architecture Ltd:

- SNG-SBOP-PSP22A      Proposed Site Plan

The terms of reference of this Audit are broadly as described in GG119.

## 5. EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

The site is currently an unused chapel, fed via a small, gated access off Crossings Close. Immediately adjacent to the existing access there is an existing cycleway. Crossings Close is a narrow residential street and joins the B5295 Whitehaven Road approximately 25m north of the site access.

## 6. PROPOSALS

It is proposed that the existing chapel will be demolished, and 11 new properties are to be constructed. These properties are to be accessed via a new 4.8m wide private lane. The lane will access onto Crossings Close via the existing access point.

No street lighting design has been provided for consideration within the Road Safety Audit, and as such, we have omitted this from our audit.



## 7. ITEMS ARISING FROM THE AUDIT

### 7.1 ITEM 1

<i>Location</i>	New private access road junction with Crossings Close
<i>Summary</i>	Risk of vehicle pedestrian conflict

The access to the site is a 4.8m private lane, adjoining Crossings Close. There is a pedestrian route indicated from the lane onto an existing verge area on Crossings Close. This verge provides a link to the footways onto Whitehaven Road, however, as witnessed on site, this area is used for parking, and is often blocked, which could force pedestrians onto the carriageway.

#### **Recommend**

It is recommended that consideration be given to blocking the verge off to motorised vehicles, or an additional crossing point considered to the footway opposite.

### 7.2 ITEM 2

<i>Location</i>	New private access road junction with Crossings Close
<i>Summary</i>	Risk of vehicle collision

Immediately north of the proposed access from the site onto crossings close, there is an existing paved verge with dropped kerbs, within which vehicles currently park, as noted in Item 1. The current proposals have this area remaining as is, and as such the junction visibility will be impaired.

#### **Recommend**

It is recommended that consideration be given to blocking the verge off to motorised vehicles.

### 7.3 ITEM 3

<i>Location</i>	New private access road
<i>Summary</i>	Risk of vehicle collision/ vehicle pedestrian conflict

The access to the site is a 4.8m private lane. The entrance into the site from Crossings Close has a particularly tight radius before the carriageway straightens along the frontage of the proposed properties. Given the tightness of the radius, there is risk that there will be vehicle overrun, particularly for larger vehicles such as refuse wagons etc, leading to vehicle/pedestrian conflict.

#### **Recommend**

It is recommended that swept path analysis be undertaken to determine the suitability of the access route for a range of vehicles, and the access amended if the results are not satisfactory.

### 7.4 ITEM 4

<i>Location</i>	General area
<i>Summary</i>	Risk of vehicle pedestrian conflict

The existing highway network around the site, including Whitehaven Road, has no existing pedestrian crossing points, to provide access across Whitehaven Road. This makes crossing the

road, and accessing properties or bus stops particularly difficult for wheelchair users and buggies, which could lead to conflict between pedestrians and vehicles.

## **Recommend**

It is recommended that new dropped crossings are provided on Whitehaven Road.

## **8. ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION**

As per the Audit brief, and following comments from the Highway Authority, we assessed the potential pedestrian movements across Whitehaven Road, as noted in Item 4. Whilst we have made recommendations that additional dropped crossing provision should be considered, to enable a full assessment of this, a traffic survey would be required.

Given the width of the road, consideration should be given to installation of a pedestrian refuge or narrowing of the carriageway at the crossing point. The visibility from Crossings Close in either direction is circa 75m, which is suitable for an 85%ile speed of 44mph. Given that this section of Whitehaven Road is a 30mph limit, it is assumed that the visibility is suitable, however, this can be confirmed via the survey.

## 9. AUDIT TEAM STATEMENT

We certify that the terms of reference of the Audit are as described in GG 119.

Audit Team Leader (Report Author)

R Warwick BSc(Hons) GMICE

Signed

Date 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2022

Audit Team Member

D Heron BSc CEng MICE MCIHT

Signed

Date 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2022

APPENDIX A

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1 - View from Whitehaven Road into Crossings Close



Photo 2 – View of existing proposed site access from Crossings Close





Photo 3 – Visibility east out of proposed development



Photo 4 – Visibility north out of proposed access, showing paved verge used for parking

APPENDIX B

DRAWINGS





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**Proposed Site Plan** rev22A

**1:500 @ A3**

St Bega's Chapel Site, Crossings Close, Cleator Moor, CA25 5QH  
Dwg: SNG-SBOP-PSP22A

Site Boundary is indicative refer to Deeds



APPENDIX C

DESIGNERS EXCEPTION REPORT

CROSSINGS CLOSE

CLEATOR MOOR

ITEM	DESIGNERS RESPONSE
7.1	
7.2	
7.3	
7.4	