

## **Statement to Oxfordshire County Council Regarding ANPR Camera Enforcement Decision**

Submitted by email Ahead of the Cabinet Member for Transport Management Meeting on Thursday, 27th February 2025

**To:** Cabinet Member for Transport Management and Oxfordshire County Council,

A decision will be made today regarding the implementation of ANPR camera enforcement at multiple locations across Oxfordshire, including three specific sites in Didcot. As a concerned resident, I have reviewed the consultation process and data underpinning this proposal and wish to raise concerns about its validity, relevance, and implications for local residents.

The formal consultation conducted by the OCC included responses from 542 participants, of whom 458 identified as residents. However, a closer examination reveals a striking lack of representation from Didcot itself—the very community most directly affected by three of the proposed enforcement sites. Of the 542 respondents, only three were Didcot residents. Two of these individuals expressed strong opposition to the introduction of ANPR cameras, while the third in favour. This minimal input from Didcot residents raises significant questions about the consultation’s ability to reflect the views of those who will bear the brunt of this policy.

Further scrutiny of the consultation data shows that many respondents who commented on the Didcot sites were not local to the area. I have excluded those who selected ‘no opinion’ from my analysis, as it is reasonable to conclude that these individuals do not regularly use the proposed sites and thus lack a vested interest in the outcome. Their inclusion in the dataset appears to artificially inflate the sample size, potentially skewing the results to favour the proposal. For transparency, I have attached the relevant table from the OCC consultation report as an appendix to this statement, and I urge the Council to critically assess the weight given to such responses.

The OCC report also cites improved air quality as a purported benefit of ANPR camera enforcement. I challenge this assertion as unsubstantiated and misleading. No clear evidence has been provided to demonstrate a causal link between ANPR enforcement and measurable improvements in air quality at these specific locations. This claim risks being perceived as an attempt to justify the proposal with environmental benefits that do not withstand scrutiny—a pattern of rhetoric that undermines public trust in the Council’s decision-making process.

Historical precedent further fuels my concern. Previous OCC consultations have, at times, appeared to dismiss the preferences of residents in favour of predetermined outcomes. The proposed ANPR enforcement feels like yet another chapter in what many perceive as a broader ‘war on motorists’—a policy direction that burdens drivers

without adequately addressing their needs or concerns. Should this decision proceed despite the clear objections of Didcot residents and the questionable relevance of the consultation data, it will only deepen this perception.

I urge the Cabinet Member for Transport Management and the Oxford County Council Administrator to reconsider the implementation of ANPR cameras at the Didcot sites. Decisions of this magnitude must be grounded in robust, representative feedback from those directly impacted—not padded with extraneous responses or propped up by unproven claims. The voices of Didcot’s residents deserve to be heard and respected, not sidelined in favour of a policy that risks alienating the very community it claims to serve.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to seeing a decision that prioritizes fairness, transparency, and genuine local input.

Yours sincerely,

Dan Jackson  
Resident of Didcot.

### Percentage of responses by proposal - Excluding 'No opinion'

