

Good morning,

I would like to draw the committee's attention to the catastrophic impact that the Marston Ferry Road traffic filter will have. We could be looking at a mass exodus of teachers from local schools in this area as well as the city's hospital staff and to top it off possible deaths and injuries too.

The Chief Executive of the Cherwell, Swan and New Marston Primary schools has expressed grave concerns about the impact on staff recruitment. A survey from July 2024 states that 43% of staff at the Cherwell School will likely resign when traffic filters are introduced. How will these schools survive if almost half their staff leave?!

Marsh Lane during rush hour is a road used by many hospital staff and patients alike for access to the JR. Not only will displaced traffic avoiding the Marston Ferry Road filter increase congestion on this road but NHS Trusts say the Congestion Charge risks disrupting the city's hospitals, provoking an exodus of hospital staff who depend on their vehicles for their daily commute. The County Council say some staff will be exempt but not all hospital staff will be eligible. How will an already struggling NHS cope with even more staff shortages?!

And finally, there appears to be a major discrepancy between Oxfordshire County Council congestion plans and their Vision Zero initiative.

According to OCC: "Vision Zero starts with a simple premise, that no human being should be killed or seriously injured as the result of a road collision, whatever mode of transport they are using."

The Road Safety Audit Response Report on the Oxford Traffic Filters Project states that there is a risk of increased collisions throughout the scheme.

Measures to reduce this are mentioned, however, it also repeatedly states that the traffic filters trial will review, adapt, and evaluate during the lifespan of the trial period.

So, the public will now be subject to a trial that may put the lives and safety of people at risk, going against their very own mission of Vision Zero. According to their own reports there have been no reported injury collisions by the Swan School in the period 2019-2024. So why is the council introducing a traffic measure, right by a school which has the potential to increase injuries and possible death where so far there have been none at all!



