

Divisions affected: *Banbury Grimsbury & Castle*

**CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT
25 JANUARY 2024**

**BANBURY: GRIMSBURY & NETHERCOTE – PROPOSED 20MPH
SPEED LIMIT**

Report by Corporate Director, Environment and Place

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Cabinet Member for the Transport Management is RECOMMENDED to approve the new 20mph speed limit on Blacklocks Hill in Nethercote as advertised, but to not make a decision on the proposed 20mph speed limit throughout the Grimsbury area in Banbury.

Executive summary

2. This report presents responses to the statutory consultation on the proposals to introduce a 20mph speed limit on Blacklocks Hill in Nethercote which will replace the existing 60mph National speed limit between a point 300 metres north of its junction with Overthorpe Road and the one-way restriction at the Northamptonshire District boundary, as shown in **Annex 1**.
3. Additionally, a new 20mph speed limit was proposed within the throughout the Grimsbury area in Banbury, replacing the existing 30mph speed limit as shown in **Annex 2**. However, a decision is not sought for this aspect, as the proposals have since been superseded by larger Banbury-wide proposals for lower limits within the town.

Financial Implications

4. Funding for consultation on the proposals and their implementation if approved has been provided by Section 106.

Equality and Inclusion Implications

5. No implications in respect of equalities or inclusion have been identified in respect of the proposals.

Sustainability Implications

6. The proposals would help facilitate the safe movement of pedestrians, cyclists and motor traffic within the new areas of the residential estate.

Formal consultation

7. The Formal consultation was carried out between 9 March and 7 April 2023. A notice was published in the Banbury Guardian newspaper, and an email sent to statutory consultees, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, local bus operators, countywide transport, access & disabled peoples user groups, Cherwell District Council, Banbury Town Council, and the local County Councillor representing the Banbury Grimsbury & Castle division.
8. 43 responses were received via the online survey during the course of the formal consultation, and these are summarised in the table below:

Proposal	Support	Object	Concerns	No objection or opinion	Total
20mph speed limit on Blacklocks Hill	13 (30%)	13 (30%)	4 (10%)	13 (30%)	43
20mph speed limit for Grimsbury area	18 (42%)	24 (56%)	-	1	43

9. Additionally, two emails were received, with Thames Valley Police outlining their concerns to 20mph speed limits, and a local District Cllr passing on a suggested amendment from residents. Cherwell District Council also responded stating that they had no specific observations to make.
10. The responses are shown at **Annex 3**, and copies of the original submissions are available for inspection by County Councillors.

Officer response to objections/concerns

11. Thames Valley Police raised concerns regarding 20mph speed limits in general, outlining that their stance remains that 20mph speed limits should be self-enforcing, and that they should be considered as part of a package of measures to manage vehicle speeds and improve road safety, such as changes to the highway (including narrowing, providing vertical traffic calming or re-aligning the road).
12. Blacklocks Hills – the proposed limit only covers the inhabited stretch of Banbury Lane where it could be argued that a number of TVP’s criteria are met, but not the uninhabited section between there and Overthorpe Road

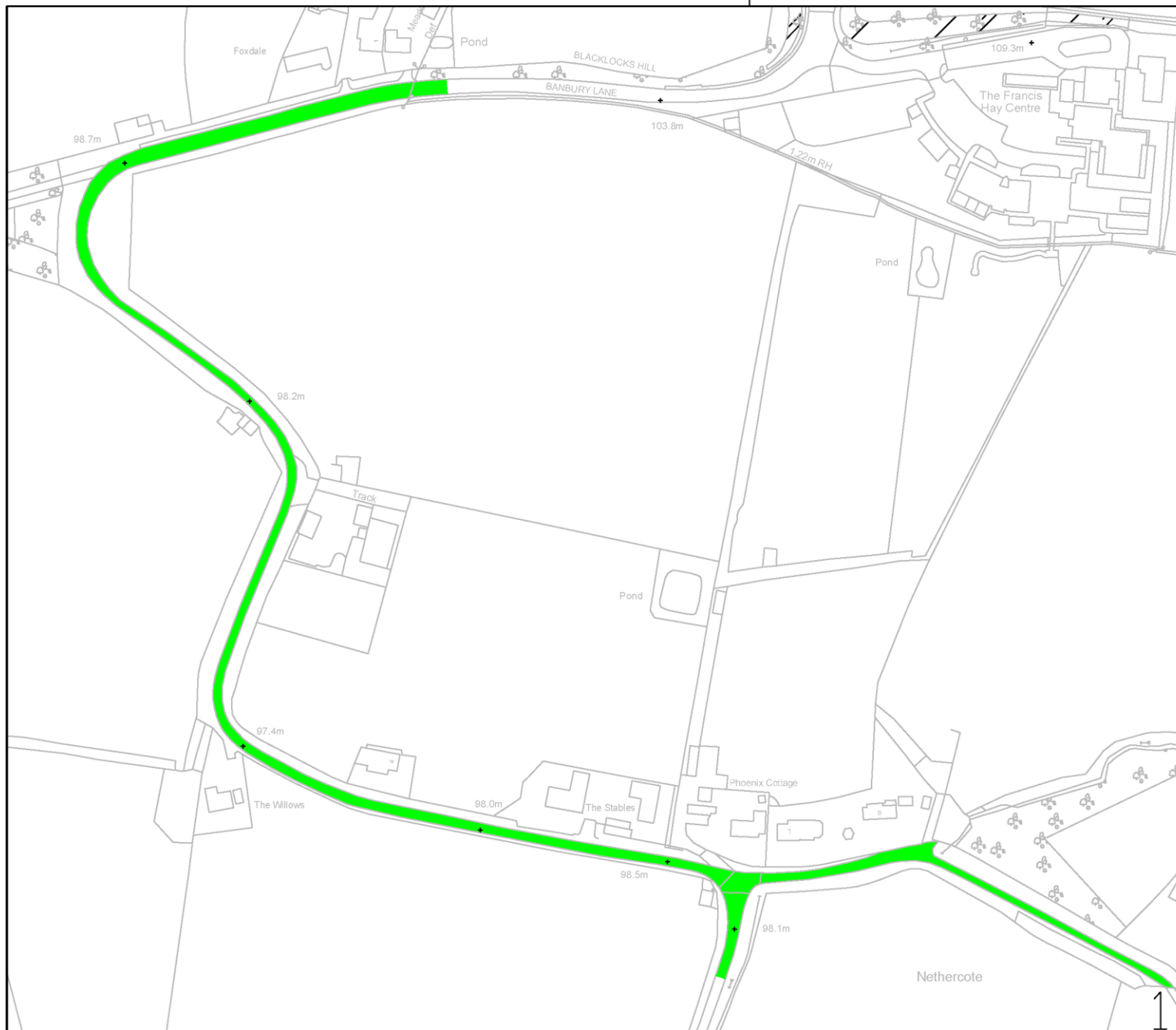
13. The objections below all suggest that the proposed speed limit is too low, not required, and will be unenforceable. In response, the road widths, contours, sight lines and lack of footway would indicate a speed limit considerably lower than the current national speed limit, for the sake of residents and the pedestrians/dog walkers that currently use this location.
14. Site observations indicate that some of the drivers travelling through at speed are actually rat-runners from the A422 'going in the wrong direction' towards Overthorpe Industrial Estate, having ignored the No Entry signs at the top end of Nethercote. This behaviour is difficult to correct without ANPR cameras or a physical closure of some sort, so a drastic reduction in speed limit could be seen as a potential 'soft' deterrent to those drivers.
15. 20mph may be too low a limit to be properly observed, but TVP stats indicate that although there can be quite a high non-compliance with new 20mph limits, vehicle speeds are generally usually lower than the previous 30mph limit.

Bill Cotton
Corporate Director, Environment and Place

Annexes Annex 1 & 2 Consultation plans
Annex 3: Consultation responses

Contact Officers: Dave Catling (Senior Officer - Traffic and Road Safety)
Mike Wasley (Team Leader - Traffic and Road Safety)

January 2024



Drawing No. _____

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KEY

Proposed 20MPH

LOCATION PLAN
NTS

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Rev.	Date	Purpose of revision	Drawn	Checked	Approved

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
Dexfordshire County Council
County Hall
New Road
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Project title
Proposed Speed Limit Change

Drawing title
Nethercote - Overview 20MPH

Drawing Status Consultation

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NTS	GG	DC	XXXXXX
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	17/02/2022	17/02/2022	

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KEY

- Proposed 20MPH

LOCATION PLAN
NTS

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Rev.	Date	Purpose of revision	Drawn	Checked	Approved

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
Down Jenkins
 Director of
 Communities Operations
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Project title
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RESPONDENT	COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	<p>Concerns – Thames Valley Police welcome the opportunity to engage on plans for road safety improvement and acknowledge that 20mph limits can be a useful tool in road safety. There are other reasons 20mph limits may be desirable for communities, such as environmental concerns, and creating a shared space environment to encourage greater diversity of road users.</p> <p>Compliance with 20mph limits is a challenging issue as there is a difference between the achievable results of the various available schemes. For example a sign-only scheme will only have a limited effect on the mean speeds, as opposed to other schemes that influence the road environment, which is recognised as being key to achieving compliance. If a speed limit is set too low and is ignored then this could result in the vulnerable road user being less safe. It can also cause a dis-proportionate number of drivers to criminalise themselves and could bring the system of speed limits into disrepute.</p> <p>Thames Valley Police have no policy to enforce based on arbitrary speed limits alone but will enforce based on threat of harm, risk and resourcing. 20mph limits are not excluded from this and will be enforced where appropriate. There should be no expectation that the police would be able to provide regular enforcement if a speed limit is set too low as this could result in an unreasonable additional demand on police resources and there are no additional resources available to support extra enforcement. Messages from partners that police will not enforce need to be discouraged. Such messaging can encourage non-compliance and should be avoided.</p> <p>The policy of Thames Valley Police is to use sound practical and realistic criteria (Setting local speed limits - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)) when responding to Highway Authorities in an effort to promote consistency and to reduce the burden of constant and unnecessary enforcement. The advice shown in Circular Roads 1/2013 states.</p> <p>The key factors that should be taken into account in any decisions on local speed limits are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • history of collisions • road geometry and engineering • road function • composition of road users (including existing and potential levels of vulnerable road users) • existing traffic speeds • road environment

	<p>However I recognise Oxfordshire County Council now have their own Policy for Setting Speed Limits and I expect full compliance of that policy going forward in relation to both monitoring , future engineering and self-enforcement through Community Speed Watch .</p> <p>Our stance remains that primarily 20 mph speed limits and zones should be self-enforcing</p> <p>Speed limits should be considered as part of a package of measures to manage vehicle speeds and improve road safety. Changes to the highway (for example through narrowing, providing vertical traffic calming or re-aligning the road) may be required to encourage lower speeds in addition to any change in speed limit. Though these may be more expensive, they are more likely to be successful in the long term in achieving lower speeds without the need for increased police enforcement to penalise substantial numbers of motorists.</p>
<p>(2) Local Cllr, (Banbury Grimsbury and Hightown ward)</p>	<p>A suggestion from residents of Nethercote which I would like to pass on is the following: Could the 20 mph limit be extended south of the village to the junction with Overthorpe Road?</p> <p>This would be safer I think than sudden braking before approaching the village and also allow pedestrians to walk in safer 20 mph zone until they can pick up the pavement to walk safely in Grimsbury.</p>
<p>(3) Local Resident, (Balscote, The Hedges)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object The 20 mph limit is unenforceable. Tokenism.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Object See previous answer</p>
<p>(4) Local Resident, (Banbury, Canterbury Close)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object Am not aware of any issues with the current speed limits</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Object Am not aware of any issues with current speed limits</p>

<p>(5) Local Resident, (Banbury, Central Banbury)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object This adds further needless restrictions to an area of Banbury that is already regularly congested, with limited options to avoid due to the only other crossing of the railway also becoming congested.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Object In this relatively rural area a movement from 60 to 30 will create a significant safety improvement. Movement to 20 is not likely to be complied with or enforced and is not warranted by the very small number of pedestrians using the stretch of road concerned.</p>
<p>(6) Rather not say, (Banbury, Lapsley Drive)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object I object as the change in speed limit is unnecessary. In Grimsbury the traffic at most times of the day is heavy which naturally dictates the speed vehicles can travel at.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Object The change in limit is unwarranted.</p>
<p>(7) Local Resident, (Banbury, Middleton Road)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object 20 mph zones cause congestion and more pollution, modern vehicles are not set up to travel at a constant speed of 20mph, the car will need to be in a lower gear thus meaning more pollution.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Object No need. No one has died here due to speed it is a waste of money.</p>
<p>(8) Local Resident, (Banbury, Molyneux Drive)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object Objecting. Complete waste of time and money. This money should be spent improving road surfaces not reducing speed and increasing emissions... Yes this will increase emissions 3 cars doing a 10mile journey one does 20, one 30 and one 40. The one doing 20 is in 2nd gear 30 3rd and 40th. So all doing a similar rpm. However the one doing 20</p>

	<p>takes twice as long as the one doing 40.... Which one is pumping out more ? Twice the amount.... This is clogging up our roads all over the country and needs a big rethink.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Object</p> <p>I can understand this being a 40 mph but 20 is just a joke.</p>
(9) Local Resident, (Banbury, Willow)	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object Not enforced cost money utter waste repair the roads first</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Object Not needed repair the roads</p>
(10) Local Resident, (Banbury, Middleton Road)	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object The roads are wide enough with residential properties far enough from the road not to justify it. During peak hours the traffic builds enough anyway so won't decrease average speed during busiest times. Traffic lights asking the route already manage traffic flow. Priority for Banbury should be improving quality of the roads (potholes are everywhere).</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Object See previous</p>
(11) Member of public, (Banbury, Springfield Avenue)	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object No one will listen to rules and more important things are in more need for example pot holes</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Object No one will listen the rules of new ones in place</p>
(12) Member of public, (Bloxham, Kings Road)	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object</p>

	<p>Objecting as 20mph is not achievable in a car</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Object 20 mph is too slow and no one will stick to it</p>
(13) Local Resident, (Grinsbury, Ivatt Walk)	<p>Grinsbury area 20mph - Object Traffic is already awful - adding a slower speed limit will mean further delays to an already bad traffic situation with no real benefit. Pathways are large enough with plenty of crossings available.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Object 20mph is just too slow. Only reason for this is to get more speeding fines.</p>
(14) Local Resident, (Local area, Middleton Road)	<p>Grinsbury area 20mph - Object I have live on this road for 3 years and have not seen of any incidents relating to speeding cars that would not be consistent with other areas in Banbury.</p> <p>It is a high traffic road that leads to the train station as well as town centre, reducing the speed will result in more emission that would be more harmful to the surrounding population. the area is also extremely unappealing because of these long ques.</p> <p>Please focus on the traffic issue first as well as the large potholes near the roundabout, a 20mph limit is not a solution it is a cheap bandage on a gaping wound, whoever has suggested it lacks foresight.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Object Live in the area and will affected by these decisions</p>
(15) Member of public, (Witney, Oxford Hill)	<p>Grinsbury area 20mph - Object It is undemocratic, unethical, divisive and disrespectful for communities of whom can see no need to change the speed limits. Why is that? Because there is no such report advising that the road within the area of Banbury for</p>

example is at 80% risk of death or serious injury if the speed limit is not changed. This consultation if anybody wants to call it that (clearly not) is going to undoubtedly ignore public opinion, the very same County Council that ignored public opinion on Witney 20 MPH policy (falling apart, widely unpopular resulting in likely Political Party change at the top who vow to review this immediately). The very same County Council also that refused to engage with Communities to debate their proposals on the Oxford proposals for 2024 which despite genuine cases of concern, has been shunned where although Together Declaration in a debate on the 9th March, offered representatives to make their cases heard. Declined to attend. This shows that this Council has no interest showing even in this case about Grimsbury and Nethercote the consultation objections will likely be ignored as per comments from Councillors opposed to this ruthless totalitarian regime.

I visit these two places and a pleasure to drive through regularly to get away from the depressive dystopian 20 mph signs from a neighbouring town that look like Russian Zs you see in a Russian street every 100 yards where it made a walk locally at home an utterly bitter and depressing experience knowing that these 20mph signage changes are a political decision and not a road safety decision. I don't take it lightly to compare the Russian Z symbol to a 20mph sign but if the reader googles a Russian city or town what it looks like with the Z symbol in that county it is as comparable as the 20mph sign easily. It is regretful but the honest truth. Devastating to see Nethercote and Grimsbury that despite seeing zero road incidents within the places have such a change needlessly taking place that the Police cannot cope with enforcing especially when local Politicians pushing for these changes will undoubtedly carry on going past 20mph as will emergency service personnel when not on emergency calls. If its ok for them it is ok for the rest of us and I hope many residents and within Oxfordshire will come with me to make a stand and that is to say no. No to such road signs and money wasted taking away our future generations common sense. We will be ashamed of what horrid path this Council has chosen, the decision to ignore public opinion and rule within Minuit management by edict with no supportive evidence of this change and one that has no loyal compliance even after that. This will undoubtedly depress many residents seeing how needless this was, how robbed their community is of having common sense as per the Highway code and is depressing for passionate motorists that can see that even the study Belfast University did to show that slower speeds don't reduce road incidents either, link here if the individual or senior management are interested in reading. www.transportxtra.com/publications/local-transport-today/news/72511/university-study-questions-impact-of-20mph-limits-in-belfast-city-centre Nethercote and Grimsbury has great access for cycling and walking safely so does not make sense and urge all residents to write to MPs, maintain pressure on Councillors and the County Council that for as long as those in charge have one rule for themselves it is ok for the rest of us to decide to drive near to 30mph with competent common sense. Lets not forget either that this is the same Council of whose senior official said to the Sunday Traffic Filters in Oxford is going to happen definitely implying the scheme would go ahead whether public opinion opposed or unopposed leading me to my point that this is the same with the speed limit changes.

	<p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Object As above.</p>
<p>(16) Local Resident, (Banbury, Alma Road)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object A new speed limit does not solve the problem of cars that are already speeding. Fixing the pot holes, maintaining crossings, cutting back bushes, etc. would be a good starting point. Failure to get the basics right is more a problem than the limit. Especially when some signs are completely obscured by bushes. This seems like a ridiculous scheme to be seen to be doing something when already failing at current basics. Other alternatives including get on top of things that should be being done ANYWAY as a matter of course and are not should be properly evaluated and tried before new measures are introduced without validity and at great expense.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Concerns As before it does not address the root cause. the issue is not the limit, it is the failure to enforce it. A car doing 40 in a 30 or dodging pot holes, etc is the problem. people driving with the limit are generally responsible and it will just burden them while the culprits continue.</p>
<p>(17) Local Resident, (Banbury, Beaulieu Close)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object Excessive speed is cited as a reason for introducing the 20mph limit, surely those who already drive at excessive speed won't slow down if you reduce the speed limit, they clearly don't care anyway. The police have gone on record to say that they won't be enforcing these new limits unless absolutely necessary, besides, have they really got the manpower to be focusing on people driving at 25mph in a 20 zone when it was perfectly acceptable when the limit was 30? The majority of the roads where you are proposing to introduce this new limit are residential streets clogged with parked cars so most of us drive slowly there already, and again those who speed along these streets obviously won't care if the limit was lowered because there won't be police on all these streets enforcing the new limit. I believe your scheme to reduce speed limits is going to cost £8m, I'm sure many drivers would rather that was spent on filling the many potholes on the county's roads. Finally, if what I have read about similar schemes in the county is true, you have still introduced them despite most consultation responses objecting, I hope that won't be the case here or else the consultation is just a box ticking exercise and another big waste of tax payer's money.</p>

	<p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Concerns I believe the limit there is currently 60, why not lower it to 30 instead? Traffic levels there are light except for school pickup and drop off times</p>
<p>(18) Local Resident, (Banbury, Kingsway)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object The change is unnecessary and will cause traffic obstruction.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Concerns Dropping from 60mph to 20mph seems abrupt.</p>
<p>(19) Local Resident, (Grimsbury, Woburn Close)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object The speed limit on Middleton Road is currently 30 MPH and cars frequently travel faster than that. Reducing the speed limit to 20 MPH won't improve this. Enforcement of the current speed limit will.</p> <p>If everyone actually did 30 MPH there would be no issue. Currently there are no digital speed signs which have been shown to improve compliance. That should be the first step.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Concerns Same as previous. Encourage people to obey the current speed limit rather than arbitrary reductions</p>
<p>(20) Local Resident, (Banbury, Beaulieu Close)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object The current 30mph limit is not enforced therefore reducing the limit will only result in those of us who comply with the speed limit to have to drive more slowly and those who already don't respect the speed limit will continue to do so. When driving in 30mph areas where there are likely to be more pedestrians you need to have your focus and attention on the road and your surroundings and I feel that when trying to comply with a 20mph speed limit the driver will need to divert more of their attention from the road to check their speed. I would also question how many accidents have actually taken place on 30mph roads, particularly those that are not immediately outside a school entrance. Is this really a necessary change or one to make it look like OCC are improving road safety. The funds used to complete this consultation and the associated changes afterwards should you decided to go ahead (which is very likely given it is</p>

	<p>OCC's new policy) could have been used to improve the state of the roads which is likely to improve safety much more than creating an arbitrary speed limit reduction. In an article on itv news dated 28th July 2022 Thames Valley Police were quoted as follows in relation to Witney roads being reduced to 20mph: 'If a speed limit is set too low and is ignored then this could result in the vulnerable road user being less safe. It can also cause a disproportionate number of drivers to criminalise themselves and could bring the system of speed limits into disrepute'. I am aware that Northamptonshire Highways have a similar view and are reluctant to reduce speed limits unless a genuine safety risk can be proven as they believe that if drivers start to lose faith that speed limits are appropriate and therefore start to break the limit in those areas they are more likely to start to disregard speed limits elsewhere creating more of a danger on the roads, particularly on those that have a higher speed limit. I would agree with these views hence my objection to the reduction in the speed limit to 20mph.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - No opinion I don't believe you can actually drive at more than 20mph in the Nethercote area so think it is unnecessary but as I believe only residents are meant to drive through Nethercote then I think their view is what should be taken into account in this area.</p>
(21) Local Resident, (Banbury, Fergusson Road)	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object Middleton road is the main thoroughfare through Grimsbury reducing the speed limit won't stop speeding offenders anyway. In my opinion it will slow traffic flows thus causing more traffic build up around the railway bridge and Merton street junction area which is already congested in busy periods this is likely to cause longer periods of stationary traffic causing more pollution in the air similar to Henef way. I have not seen any statistical evidence regarding the issue of the safety aspects of the existing speed limit .</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - No opinion don't know the area</p>
(22) Local Resident, (Banbury, Grimsbury Drive)	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object 20mph is too low for a main arterial road through the area. There are few studies that prove a reduction in speed limit increases safety. All you achieve by lowering the speed limit to 20mph is increase pollution, increase time of traffic taken to move through the area and sadly create a revenue stream through speeding offences, which the vast majority</p>

	<p>will be driving at less than 30 mph but more than 20mph. I live in this area with my young family and whole heartedly object to the proposed speed limit decrease.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - No opinion 20 mph zones are stupid, achieve nothing and are a blight on already busy roads</p>
(23) Local Resident, (Banbury, Grosvenor Road)	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object 30mph on the main road of Middleton Road is too slow. 20mph on the side road is fine.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - No opinion</p>
(24) Local Resident, (Banbury, Howard Road)	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object There is no need for such measures.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - No opinion Not familiar with area.</p>
(25) Local Resident, (Banbury/Grimsbury, Broome Way)	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object Grimsbury area is already hard to drive in due to narrow roads in bad condition and only 2 exits to town center. 20 mph limit will make a traffic even worse.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - No opinion I dont drive there.</p>
(26) Local Resident, (Grimsbury, Delapre Drive)	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Object My house is adjacent to Middleton Road which has normal road noise which is bearable, however on a daily basis we have the boy racers with their extremely loud exhausts accelerating between the Pepper Pot traffic lights to the</p>

	<p>pedestrian lights and speed bump and then from there to the Esso roundabout reaching up to speeds of between 50 to 60 mph in my opinion.</p> <p>Between the pedestrian lights and the roundabout are bus stops where a significant amount of school children disembark on a daily basis.</p> <p>Personally I think that reducing the speed might help but proper speed humps would a better option (ones that cover the whole width of the road)</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Support Safety concerns and the excess noise from some drivers</p>
(27) Local Resident, (Banbury, East Street)	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Support This proposal will make our area safer and more pleasant for residents and people who choose active travel</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Support This proposal will make the area safer and more pleasant for residents and people who choose active travel</p>
(28) Local Resident, (Banbury, Hereford Way)	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Support Far too many speeding cars, but at least the potholes slow them down at the moment</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Support 20 is more than enough</p>
(29) Local Resident, (Banbury, Mewburn Road)	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Support Excessive speeds and volumes of motorised traffic affect our environment, climate and health. Reducing speed limits in residential areas reduces pollution, improves safety and makes for a more inclusive and supportive environment for cyclists and walkers. https://www.20splenty.org/20_s_plenty_for_the_environment</p>

	<p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Support This is a narrow road which is not designed for fast traffic. Drivers should be reminded that they should keep to a low speed.</p>
<p>(30) Local Resident, (Banbury, Nursery Drive)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Support Anything to keep the streets safer for people is a benefit. Streets are for all people and not just people in cars. Priority should be given to pedestrians and cyclists and this will go some way towards that</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Support As above</p>
<p>(31) Local Resident, (Banbury, Victoria Place)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Support I am cyclist and pedestrian so will be safer with 20mph. Also support it because routes are well used by school children, so safer for them and possibly also some improvement to local air quality. I wish that all Banbury was done at once though; I don't really understand why there is this piecemeal approach to consideration of 20 mph speed limits</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Support Nethercote residents I know are very much in favour. Safer.</p>
<p>(32) Local Resident, (Banbury, Westminster way)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Support It's a built up area</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Support Wildlife</p>
<p>(33) Local Resident, (Banbury , Bloxham road)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Support</p>

	<p>20mph is a far more suitable speed for residential roads. Together with traffic calming measures it can make the streets far safer for pedestrians and cyclists</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Support 20mph is a far more suitable speed for residential roads. Together with traffic calming measures it can make the streets far safer for pedestrians and cyclists</p>
<p>(34) Local Resident, (Banbury, West Street)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Support There is a climate crisis and we need to be doing something to help reduce car use. People have had 30 odd years of warnings. Nobody has done anything. I see this as an inconvenience measure for motorists. And support it. But I do think it is a gutless measure and doesn't go far enough. GET THOSE CARS OFF OF OUR ROADS. THEY ARE KILLING US. Your the authorities. Do something. All residential roads should be 20mph or even lower.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Support Do support it. But I do think it is a bit pointless here. You can't drive fast on this bit of road</p>
<p>(35) Local Resident, (Grimsbury, Middleton Road)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Support I live on the Middleton Road very close to the Pepper Pot pub and have seen many accidents on this stretch of road due to speeding.</p> <p>During the night, cars are driven way faster than the speed limit which often wakes us up. Our beloved cat was also killed on this road last week due to being hit by a speeding car.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Support I don't live in this area so cannot comment but I fully support any speed restrictions in built up areas.</p>
<p>(36) Local Resident, (Nethercote, Blacklocks Hill)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Support</p>

With the exception of the main through roads (Hennef Way, Middleton Road, and Ermont Way) the roads are quite narrow and often filled with parked cars, it doesn't seem safe for cars to go faster than 20mph so it would for the speed limit to match the common sense driving speed.

I use a road legal mobility scooter and often ride on the road along the causeway (the pavements are narrow so it is hard to pass schoolchildren, and there are often cars and bins blocking the pavements), having a 20mph speed limit would be less intimidating for mobility scooter users such as myself, and cyclists etc.

Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Support

I ABSOLUTELY SUPPORT 20MPH Nethercote has no proper road surface and no street lighting, yet too many cars use Nethercote as a rat run and drive far too fast for the lane. Having no sensible speed limit gives bad drivers carte blanche to drive as they like!

Too many drivers also ignore the no-entry sign at the north end of the lane, so there are more cars heading south along the lane than you would expect. When they are driving at well over 20mph and the cars going in the other direction are travelling at well over 20mph, it is a danger to everyone, especially as the lane is narrow and winding! In icy conditions we have seen a number of cars slide on the corners and collide with residents' property! (we have the video and photos).

A lot of people walk along the lane, take their dogs for walk along the lane, cycle through, or like myself use a mobility scooter. The edges of the lane's road "surface" are a boggy, muddy mess with no defined curbs, so people cannot walk or ride very near the edge, this puts them at greater risk from vehicles, especially when they are driving fast. It is scary and intimidating (especially along the single track sections) as cars often show a lack of respect by driving too fast.

BUT I ALSO HAVE CONCERNS, WHY AREN'T YOUR PLANS TO HAVE 20MPH ALL THE WAY TO OVERTHORPE ROAD?

The 20mph zone should start at the junction with Overthorpe Road. A lot of people drive up and down the first 300metre section (some of which is single track), they use the layby for many purposes (meals, drugs, sex etc.) and then do a u-turn just north of the 300m mark on that corner. therefore, if the 20mph speed limit starts 300 metres in, it's not protecting other road users for the busiest bit. It also doesn't give cars enough time to slow down before the turn (where we've seen cars lose control and slide in icy conditions).

Starting the speed zone at the junction of Overthorpe Road would also mean that the entrance to the new house being built, would also be within this zone and also be protected from speeders (and make them feel part of Nethercote).

	<p>The south end of the lane has been included in the Banbury LCWIP but you are proposing to not put a sensible speed limit on this section? (See Figure 24 Banbury Cycling Network Banbury LCWIP.jpg https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/banbury-lcwip)</p>
<p>(37) Local Resident, (Nethercote, Blacklocks Hill)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Support I strongly support the proposals for a 20mph speed limit throughout Grimsbury. I regularly walk and cycle on these roads and the speed limit will make them much safer.</p> <p>However, I believe that the following additional roads south of Merton Street should be included in the proposed 20mph section:</p> <p>Higham Way - This road provides pedestrian and cycle access to the eastern exit of Banbury Rail Station. Rail passengers walking and cycling to Grimsbury, Nethercote or the Thorpe Way industrial estate have to either walk along or cross this road. Many pedestrians leaving the station cross Higham Way immediately next to the station exit despite the lack of a signalled crossing at this point. Therefore reducing the speed limit on this section will help improve their safety. It will also discourage drivers from accelerating and braking hard between the existing traffic calming measures</p> <p>Alma Road/Marshall Road - These are also used as walking routes by pedestrians/cyclists heading from the Rail station into Grimsbury. They are also primarily residential, so should have the same 20mph speed limits as the other residential roads in Grimsbury.</p> <p>Although not part of the 20mph proposal, I would also like to see Overthorpe Road reduced to 30mph between the Ermont Way roundabout, across the M40 bridge to the junction with Blacklocks Hill. At the moment, due to the lack of adequate off road pedestrian and cycle provision in this stretch, cyclists are forced to share road space with HGVs whilst pedestrians are stuck on narrow, unsuitable, pavements. A reduction in speed limit from 40mph/national speed limit will at least provide some improvement to safety in this section.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Support 'As a resident of Nethercote, I strongly support the proposals for reducing the speed limit to 20mph along Blacklocks Hill through Nethercote.</p> <p>I am very concerned at the speed at which some drivers zoom past my house during the rush hour, especially on the</p>

blind sharp corners. With no pavements, pedestrians and cyclists have no choice but to share the carriageway with vehicles and when walking/cycling along this road, I often feel very unsafe due to the speed of passing vehicles. I have a visual impairment which means I often have less time to react to an oncoming car, or struggle to be sure whether the driver has actually seen me or if I need to dive out of their way.

I am also concerned about the safety of my cats, dogs and visiting young nieces/nephews, should they get into the road. At 20mph, drivers have much more chance of seeing and avoiding animals and children. Even if they can't stop, the impact of a collision is much less severe.

Almost every house in Nethercote has a dog and the fields alongside Blacklocks hill are also used by dog walkers, so there is a high risk of animals getting into the road. (There are also deer and rabbits regularly in the road, and cows/sheep have also been known to escape from their fields).

The road becomes especially unsafe when, as mentioned in your statement of reasons, drivers choose to ignore the No Entry sign at the north end of Nethercote, leading to streams of high speed traffic in both directions on a single track lane with no pavement or street lighting.

However, I also firmly believe that the southern extent of the 20mph speed limit should be at the junction with Overthorpe Road, rather than 300m to the north as proposed by the consultation.

My reasons are as follows:

- This section of the road still has no pavement or lighting and is extremely narrow in some places. When walking or cycling through this area it feels extremely unsafe when being passed by a car at high speed, especially in the dark.
- This section of road is still used heavily by cyclists, walkers and at least one wheelchair user and mobility scooter user. all of whom have no choice but to use the carriageway due to the lack of pavement.
- It is the only safe pedestrian/cycle access for residents of Nethercote to reach Banbury town centre and rail station, and it is also used regularly by workers walking to/from the Thorpe Way Industrial Estate.
- The verges offer little refuge for pedestrians as they are muddy or overgrown, so there is no opportunity to escape speeding vehicles.
- The lay-by just south of the proposed start of the limit is often used by walkers parking up to exercise their dogs or walk along the country footpaths. Lowering the speed limit through this area will help ensure their safety when getting themselves and animals in/out of their vehicles.
- Maintaining a consistent 20mph speed limit along the whole length of Blacklocks Hill will lead to less confusion for motorists. Switching from National Speed Limit at the junction to 20mph in the space of 300m is a significant step change.
- The difference in time saved by not having the entire length at 20mph is negligible.

	<p>300m at 60mph takes approximately 11 seconds 300m at 20mph takes approximately 33 seconds In practice the time saved will be even less than 22 seconds, due to the time required for acceleration from the junction and braking for the 20mph limit. - It will also reduce the likelihood of motorists having to brake hard for the blind sharp corner opposite Phoenix Cottage and potentially losing control. (We have seen motorists lose control here in wet/icy conditions and even crash into the wall after failing to make the turn).</p> <p>Given that the section of Blacklocks Hill between Overthorpe Road and the centre of Nethercote has been identified as a key walking/cycling artery in the proposed Banbury LCWIP (Route 10), I believe that 20mph is a much more suitable speed limit for this section to meet the council's Active Travel aspirations, especially as the road has no pavements.</p> <p>While the reduction of the speed limit through Nethercote to 20mph is a good first step, I would also like to see Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire councils work together to reach a permanent resolution to the issue of vehicles illegally passing through the No Entry sign at the north end of Nethercote, whenever there is congestion on A422. My preference would be a modal filter to prevent through vehicular traffic entirely. This would greatly improve safety by completely eliminating rat-running in both directions. Failing that, the junction could be redesigned to make it impossible for vehicles coming from the A422 to reach Blacklocks Hill, whilst still being able to access Dogs For Good's car park.</p> <p>In this case, I would also like to see additional traffic calming measures put in place along Blacklocks Hill to discourage northbound rat-running.</p>
<p>(38) Local Resident, (Nethercote, Blacklocks Hill)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - No opinion I am wanting to provide opinion on Nethercote proposals</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - Support We absolutely support the proposal of a 20mph speed limit on Blacklocks Hill, Nethercote, Banbury</p> <p>When people learn that Blacklocks Hill, Nethercote currently has no speed restrictions, therefore making it national speed limit of 60mph, they assume that given the single track, windy nature of the lane, that drivers would be unable to reach those speeds. Living on the lane we sadly are all too familiar with the fact that drivers seem unable to use</p>

common sense and drive at a sensible speed on this road and therefore restrictions are very much needed

The lane is a beautiful green space, accessible to residents of nearby Banbury residential estates as well as the WNC villages, it is well used by hikers, dog walkers, runners, cyclists on a daily basis. One thing that people unfamiliar with the area do not appreciate is that the proximity to the M40 & A422 gives a constant low hum of background traffic noise, this makes it harder than in other areas to identify the sound of an approaching vehicle and again this is incredibly dangerous when vehicles are driving at excessive speeds and don't realise that there will likely be a delay for other road users to hear their approach. With the increase of electric, quieter cars on the roads, this issue is only going to increase.

The quality of camber in Blacklocks Hill is poor and the lane is narrow, there are no footpaths on the majority of the lane for pedestrians using the lane & therefore the speed restrictions will help keep these people safe. There are residents in the hamlet using mobility scooters and wheelchairs and the high speed of traffic currently is incredibly concerning & reduces such users ability to use the lane.

Although the no entry sign off A422 does limit the volume of traffic flowing two way generally, at times when there is any congestion on A422 large volumes of traffic do contravene this sign & this causes large volumes of traffic, often travelling at speed, at these times the drivers are visibly annoyed by the delays so less focused. When they meet each other on the lane, they will impatiently swerve erratically to mount the verges. This not only causes the verges to become churned up, the verges also provide valuable habitat for the abundance of wildlife and vehicles should not be driving up them. Furthermore, many mammals live in holes along the verges and drivers travelling at speed are more likely to cause injury or death to this wildlife

We can sometimes experience antisocial behaviour along the lane, littering, fly tipping, poaching, drug taking etc, and it is considered that as well as reducing traffic speed and therefore safety, the proposal would also help to highlight that this is a residential area and therefore could reduce some of these behaviours in the area

We appreciate that the no entry sign is the Northamptonshire border & therefore the stretch from there to A422 is Northamptonshire, however we would comment that the volunteers walk the dogs from Dogs For Good in this area so it would be good if the restriction could be extended to ensure their safety.

Similarly at the other end, there are 3 public footpaths coming out onto the stretch between the suggested start & Overthorpe Road and this is also included in the LCWIP route

As well as speeding cars, HGVs regularly use the lane which is problematic for not only the speed but the lane simply

	<p>isn't sufficient width or quality to support HGVs. There is a no HGV sign as you turn onto Blacklocks Hill from Overthorpe Road, however HGV drivers report that with no signs on Overthorpe Road as they approach the turning, they do not see this sign until they have committed to the turn, giving them no option than to continue through the lane. Speed restrictions alone will not resolve this issue and further signage is required on Overthorpe Road.</p> <p>We would take the opportunity to thank you for this proposal and the consideration given to our lovely hamlet, the safety of our residents and all those who come to enjoy this tranquil, green space</p>
<p>(39) Local Resident, (Banbury, Centre Street)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Support The speeds which some drivers currently hit (especially delivery drivers) is unacceptable in such a built up area with so many different types of road users, many of whom are elderly or young. 20mph is absolutely plenty.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - No opinion N/a</p>
<p>(40) Local Resident, (Banbury, Manor Road)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Support 20 MPH is fast enough on the roads proposed and will be much safer.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - No opinion I do not live in this area, and don't know it very well.</p>
<p>(41) Local Resident, (Banbury, Stroud Close)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Support To make it safer for road users and pedestrians</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - No opinion N/A</p>

<p>(42) Local Resident, (Banbury, Priory Vale Road)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Support Very busy road. Badly parked cars obstructing view. 20 mph is fast enough and will reduce accidents</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - No opinion Do not use that road</p>
<p>(43) Local Resident, (Banbury, Waterloo Drive)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Support I regularly drive along Middleton Road to and from work and 20 mph would be plenty fast enough. There are always cars parked along a long stretch of this road and it is frequently not safe to pass them at 30.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - No opinion I don't know this area.</p>
<p>(44) Member of public, (Banbury, Broome Way)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Support Vehicles should not be travelling fast in built up areas of town, although I have to add that the roads leading to Broome Way are so atrocious that 20mph is all I ever usually do.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - No opinion This is not an area I go to ever.</p>
<p>(45) Local Resident, (Grimsbury, Grimsbury Drive)</p>	<p>Grimsbury area 20mph - Support We have some issues with cars speeding in our road (Grimsbury Drive) and we have two small children.</p> <p>Blacklocks Hill 20mph - No opinion I don't know this area of town</p>