

County Councillors,

Thank you for this opportunity to speak. T

The aims of the Low Traffic Neighbourhoods, to encourage walking and cycling, to improve air quality in residential streets and to nudge people away from using private cars when they can, are laudable. For some, the benefits were immediate and obvious. This includes, for example, the many children who now cycle and walk to Larkrise School who never did before the LTNs were in place. For others, where the benefits are less obvious and will take longer to appear the fact that these benefits were not communicated clearly enough, has made the behaviour change that they aim to achieve more difficult. And for some people, they are experiencing only disadvantages from the new road structures that have increased traffic on certain routes.

The opposition to the current LTNs could have been considerably reduced if proper consultation and co-design with local communities had been done. I hope we can all learn from this in future.

I believe that there are some specific changes to the layout of the LTNS that could make a huge difference to the negative experiences of residents and I urge the County council to look at these. A number of my city council colleagues are outlining particular changes in their speeches, and I would like to thank the new Cabinet Member for Highways Management, Cllr Gant, for taking the time to visit the sites and speaking to local city and county councillors as well as residents. I think he now has a good idea of what elements would benefit from a rethink, I strongly urge him to do this as soon as legally possible.

*Cllr Louise Upton*

*Oxford City Councillor for Walton Manor ward*

*Cabinet Member for Transport and Health*