

Divisions affected: Hendreds and Harwell

**CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT – 25 MARCH 2021**  
**STEVENTON – HANNEY ROAD – PROPOSED TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES**

Report by Corporate Director, Environment and Place

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. The Cabinet Member for Environment is RECOMMENDED to approve the traffic calming measures on the Hanney Road at Steventon as advertised.

**Executive summary**

2. This report presents responses received to a statutory consultation on proposed amended traffic calming measures on the Hanney Road at Steventon as shown at Annex 1. The new layout comprises the addition of a flat top road hump within the western of the two currently existing build outs with the eastern build-out being removed. The proposals are being put forward to accommodate a new access to residential development on the south west side of the road.

**Financial Implications**

3. Funding for the proposals has been provided by developers of adjacent land

**Equality and Inclusion Implications**

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

**Sustainability Implications**

5. The proposals would help facilitate the safe movement of traffic.

**Consultation**

6. Formal consultation was carried out between 20 January and 19 February 2021. A notice was published in the Oxfordshire Herald newspaper and an email sent to statutory consultees including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, the Vale of the White Horse District Council, Steventon Parish Council and local County Councillor. Notices were placed on site and letters also sent to approximately 50 premises adjacent to the proposals.

7. Seven responses were received. One in support, four raising concerns or objecting and two non-objections.
8. The individual responses are shown at Annex 2 with copies of the original responses available for inspection by County Councillors.

### **Response to objections and other comments**

9. Thames Valley Police and the Vale of the White Horse District Council have not objected.
10. One objection and three expressions of concern were received from members of the public - all local residents. These queried the effectiveness of the proposed revised traffic calming measures and raised broader concerns over the speed and volume of traffic, in particular commercial vehicles, using the Hanney – Steventon road and the need for additional measures such as speed cameras and vehicle activated signs. Concerns were also raised over the lack of effective maintenance of the Hanney Road including the condition of both the surfacing and drainage along the full length of the road and also at the existing traffic calming measures.
11. Noting the above concerns, the proposed addition of a road hump can be expected, on the basis of experience with other similar schemes, to be appreciably more effective than the current layout in reducing speeds. It is accepted that the road does carry appreciable traffic including commercial vehicles reflecting in part the commercial storage site but these concerns are not considered to be within the scope of the proposals under consideration as, similarly, are the requests for additional speed management measures further east on the Hanney Road.
12. The concerns over the maintenance of the road are noted and will be referred to the area team for inspection and assessment.
13. One expression of support was received from a local resident, although this also mentioned the need for additional traffic calming measures further east and also concerns over the maintenance of the road.

**BILL COTTON**

Corporate Director, Environment and Place

Annexes

Annex 1: Plan of proposed traffic calming measures  
Annex 2: Consultation responses

Contact Officers:

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March 2021



| RESPONDENT   | COMMENTS   |
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| (1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police) | <b>No objection</b>  |
| (2) Vale of White Horse District Council               | <b>No objection</b>  |
| (3) Local Resident, (Steventon)                        | <p><b>Object</b> – Having lived on the Hanney Road for many years I can tell you putting a road hump in will not make any difference what so ever, as soon as the cars get over the hump they will be speeding down the road, there are no signs to say the speed limit is 30 mph on this stretch of the road , not that car drivers would take any notice, the only thing that will reduce speed is speed cameras and I don't understand why this has not been done already, I would also like to comment on the huge lorries on the Hanney Road coming and going to the depot , all through the night we are woken up by these lorries and my house shakes when they go past, they are enormous , it is only going to get worse with the amount of new housing being built in Grove and Wantage so I would like the council to consider speed cameras.</p>   |
| (4) Local Resident, (Steventon)                        | <p><b>Concerns</b> – As residents living on the Hanney Road for many years we have witnessed the deterioration of the road and ever-increasing traffic movements. We have with other residents made known our concerns over this and have documentary evidence to back up this statement. Your recent letter directed us to the detailed plan for the proposed traffic calming measures.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The closeness to the bend on the western side restricts the vision in that direction to both oncoming traffic and emerging traffic from Harding Vale.</li> <li>2. Unless the road pad is made of very substantial material it will not deter traffic from Hanney in making a bid for the "the gap". We know this from daily experience because we see and hear it. Your plans to put speed limit signage will have little effect in time (a) because they are mud splattered and (b) because they are generally ignored.</li> </ol> |

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|  | <p>3. The calming measures in no way take account the underlying issues here.<br/>         (i) unsuitability of a small rural road for the regular and heavy vehicle movement, primarily to and from Steventon Storage Depot; (ii) the road surface has not been properly maintained since the 1970s and occasional visits by Pothole Repair Team do not solve the problems; (iii) the road surface is indented and the banks are eroded, the drainage system is blocked and pedestrian movement, of which there is much, is threatened.</p>   |
| <p>(5) Local Resident,<br/>(Steventon)</p> | <p><b>Concerns</b> – The Hanney Rd in and out of the village is virtually a straight road of some distance and the 30mph speed restriction is abused to dangerous levels for a residential B road. A large volume of the cars, vans, and huge amount of HGV &amp; other commercial vehicles that use this road do not observe this speed limit. The existing chicane is not fit for purpose and the newly installed speed calming humps at the Barnett Rd junction are totally ineffectual, with the only drivers who slow down are those who are turning in to Barnett Rd.</p> <p>My hope is, and that of many residents of the Hanney Rd, that the new configuration at the Harding Rd junction will slow the traffic down from both directions and make drivers obey the speed restriction. My worry is that after seeing the complete waste of time, effort and money the traffic calming at the Barnett Rd junction is, that the same will happen at the Harding Rd junction and make not a jot of difference to the current intolerable situation.</p> |
| <p>(6) Resident, (Wantage)</p>             | <p><b>Concerns</b> – The existing traffic calming measures have not been maintained for years and are in a dreadful state. The keep left signs have been broken and not replaced on numerous occasions. While they have been there, they were allowed to get so dirty that the sign was not readable.</p> <p>So while it is a good idea to remove half of the built out kerb, I am concerned that the Council will continue to maintain the feature, leading to it becoming very dangerous for motorists. The height and steepness of the calming ramp seems excessive and could cause damage to vehicles.</p>   |
| <p>(7) Local Resident,<br/>(Steventon)</p> | <p><b>Support</b> – I strongly agree with traffic calming on the road. I live at 97 Hanney Road which is the last house before you leave the village. I have witnessed a number of accidents due to speeding cars and lorries and believe it to be a matter of time before someone is hurt. I feel there should be more calming measures. Such as visual flashing lights telling people to slow down. Also, the road needs resurfacing due to the heavy traffic. When lorries speed past the houses shake.</p>   |