

Divisions affected: *Hanborough & Minster Lovell*

**CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT  
14 DECEMBER 2023**

**NORTH LEIGH: A4095 WITNEY ROAD – PROPOSED EXTENSION  
OF 40MPH SPEED LIMIT AND TURNING RESTRICTIONS**

Report by Corporate Director, Environment and Place

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. The Cabinet Member for Transport Management is RECOMMENDED to approve the following measures as advertised:
  - a. extend the existing 40mph speed limit on the A4095 Witney to Woodstock Road south-westwards for 95 metres, and
  - b. introduce a 'No Entry' prohibition to the westernmost (exit) drive of 'North Lodge' for traffic travelling on the A4095 from either direction.

**Executive summary**

2. This report presents responses to the proposals to reduce the existing 50mph speed limit to 40mph on part of the A4095 Witney to Woodstock road in North Leigh, and introduce a 'No Entry' restriction at the newly extended junction to North Hall, as shown in **Annex 1**.
3. The proposals have been developed in response to the construction of a new development access road on the A4095 and remain as previously consulted on and approved in September 2021, and are therefore being put forward for re-consideration following the expiration of the statutory two-year period in which to implement.
4. The matter was previously brought to the Cabinet Member for Highway Management decisions meeting on 3 June 2021 but a decision deferred to allow for further consultation with Eynsham Hall on additional measures and their funding following consideration of the consultation responses and the additional representations made by the local member at the meeting.
5. At the Cabinet Member for Highway Management decisions meeting on 2 September 2021 both the proposed extension of the 40mph speed limit on the A4095 and the proposed turning restriction prohibiting vehicles turning from the A4095 into new access for Eynsham Hall were approved as originally advertised, following confirmation from Officers that the developers had declined to fund any additional measures beyond their agreed works.

## Financial Implications

6. Funding for the proposals, including consultation will be met from funding provided by the developers of adjacent land.

## Equality and Inclusion Implications

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

## Sustainability Implications

8. The proposals will contribute to improving the safe passage of traffic in the vicinity.

## Formal consultation

9. A formal consultation was carried out between 27 September and 27 October 2023. A notice was published in the Witney & West Oxfordshire Gazette newspaper, and an email was sent to statutory consultees & key-stakeholders, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, Bus operators, countywide transport/access & disabled peoples user groups, West Oxfordshire District Council, local District Cllr's, North Leigh parish council, and the local County Councillor representing the Hanborough & Minster Lovell division.
10. 12 responses were received via the online survey during the course of the formal consultation, and these are summarised in the table below:

Proposal	Object	Concerns	Support	No opinion/ objection	Total
40mph speed limit	5 (42%)	-	7 (58%)	-	12
'No Entry' restriction	2 (17%)	-	10 (83%)	-	12

11. Additionally, Thames Valley Police submitted a non-objection.
12. The full responses are shown at **Annex 2**, and copies of the original submissions are available for inspection by County Councillors.

## Officer response to objections/concerns

13. Thames Valley Police raised no objection to the proposals – however, were keen to ensure that the burden of enforcement for the ‘No Entry’ restriction was not placed upon them.
14. The proposals are for a relatively small extension of the existing speed limit, which have been put forward as a requirement under the planning conditions for the construction of the new exit of Estelle Manor. The proposed speed limit amendment will help accommodate the new vision splay required for the exit onto the A4095 Witney Road, and as such will help ensure that danger is minimised, and that effective and safe passage of traffic is facilitated in the vicinity of the development.
15. Officers note the comments & suggestions received, but are keen to stress that most of these sit outside the scope of the Eynsham Hall Section 278 approved works, and as such aren’t currently able to be considered as part of these proposals. The responses are similar in nature to those objections received to the original consultation – however these were discounted at the time.
16. If speed limits through North Leigh are reviewed in the future, then OCC could look to consider further amendments of the existing 40mph as requested by some of the feedback received. However, this will be determined by whether funding is available, as well as Officer capacity in determining the suitability of any requirement for further changes to the speed limits here.

Bill Cotton  
Corporate Director, Environment and Place

Annexes                                  Annex 1: Consultation plan  
    Annex 2: Consultation responses

Contact Officers:                      Daniel Mowlem (Senior Engineer)

December 2023

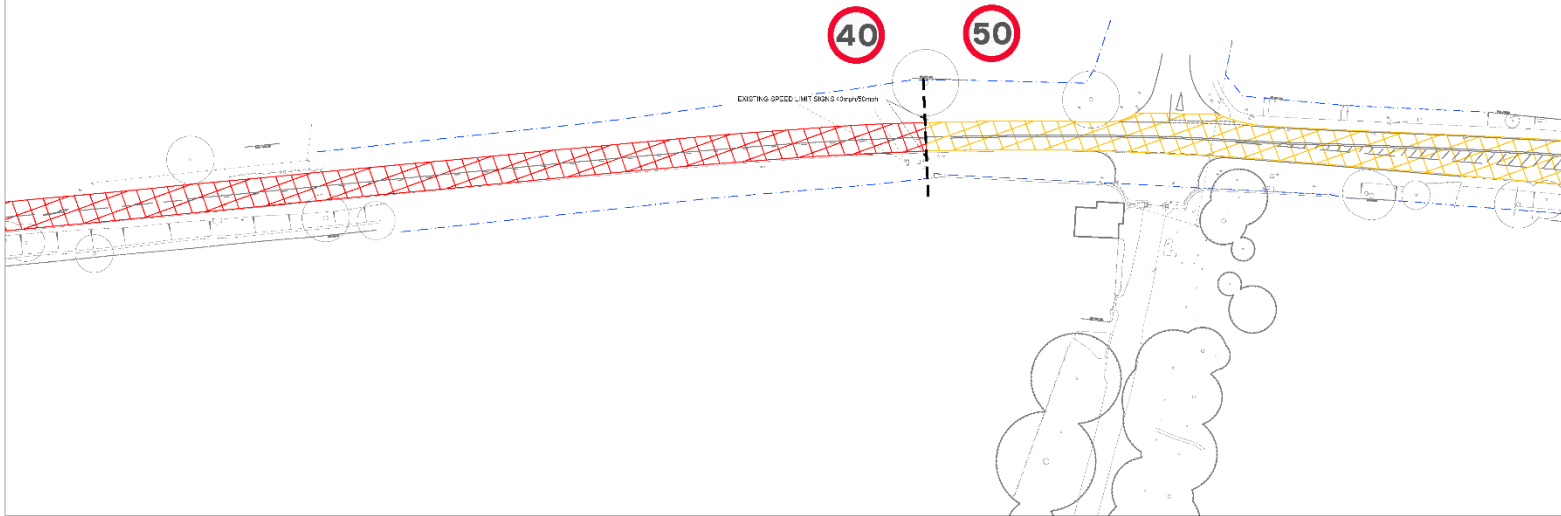
# ANNEX 1

## GENERAL NOTE

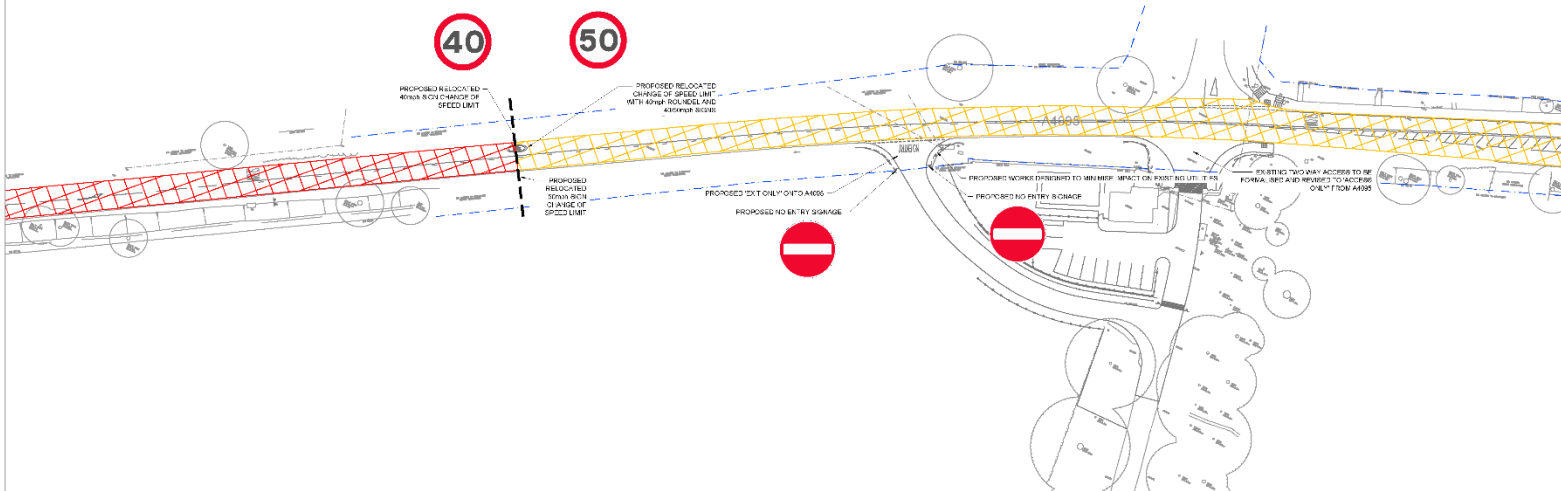
1. THIS DRAWING SHOULD NOT BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF LINK ENGINEERING.
2. DO NOT SCALE FROM THIS DRAWING. UNITS ARE IN METRES UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.
3. THE CONTRACTOR IS TO CHECK ALL INFORMATION PROVIDED PRIOR TO COMMENCING WORKS AND SIGN CLAIM FOR INFORMATION PROGRAMMATICALLY TO ANY AMENDMENTS MADE.
4. THIS DRAWING SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH ALL OTHER CO-ORDINATE DRAWINGS.



### EXISTING SITUATION



### PROPOSED TRO CHANGES





### GENERAL KEY

- EXTENT OF HIGHWAY BOUNDARY
- ▨ 40MPH ZONE
- ▨ 50MPH ZONE

Rev	Amendments	Date	By

Revisions

Client		LINK ENGINEERING
  PROJECT MANAGERS PROJECT MANAGERS PROJECT MANAGERS		
Project		LINK ENGINEERING
LE20192 - EYNSHAM HALL - PRE PLANNING S278		
Drawing		LINK ENGINEERING
TRO CONSULTATION PLAN		
Scale	Drawn	Checked
1:200	JWM	RCG

RESPONDENT	COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	<p><b>No objection</b> – Is the No Entry on Highway or Private land? Not wishing for any burden for enforcement to fall on TVP please.</p>
(2) Local District Cllr, (North Leigh ward)	<p>40mph speed limit - <b>Object</b>  'No Entry' restriction - <b>Support</b></p> <p>I have previously made requests/representations for the Highways team and TV Police to listen to local people about this stretch of the A4095. Coming from Witney the 40 mph limit should be imposed from the junction of Common Road with the A4095 and that speed limit should apply all the way to Long Hanborough where the 30mph limit starts.</p> <p>When you consider the number of existing and NEW traffic generating accesses onto this section of A road eg 50 (Bewley) but soon to be 105 new homes (off Akeman Road - Bewley and Rectory Homes combined access), the new Estelle Manor complex much enlarged hotel and lodge devt within Eynsham Hall opposite Park Road and an extra exit, then the North Leigh Football club on the bend, then Boddington Lane and Cuckoo Lane staggered junctions, a number of residential accesses between Cuckoo Lane and the Freeland turn, then the new devt of c.45 houses onto the A4095 before the Freehand Turn, then the new housing estate (c180 houses) and doctors surgery just before Long Hanborough itself - it must surely be clear that so many right or left turn events demand a consistent 40 mph limit for this whole section of the A4095 - instead of the current chopping and changing between 40/50 - and NOT this frankly ridiculous extension by a few yards.</p> <p>Given I believe the village of North Leigh is probably going to seek a 20 mph limit in part or whole of the village roads why don't OCC defer this change and combine the revised 20 mph changes looming with my suggestion of 40 mph between Common Road and Long Hanborough's 30 mph limit.</p> <p>Us locals know that many vehicles exceed the 50 limit ( many motorbikes are probably doing nearer 100mph) along the stretch between Common Road and Park Road and the number of accidents that have occurred along this section of road in the last ten years or so speaks for itself - sadly including a number of fatalities.</p> <p>This is a good opportunity to get this right and in my view OCC ARE MISSING IT, ESPECIALLY GIVEN THE</p>

	MISSING CYCLEWAY LINK ALONG THE A4095 IS NOT FAR OFF BEING FUNDED. The combined changes would see more sustainable travel opportunities and safer speed limits.
(3) Local Resident, (North Leigh, East End)	<p>40mph speed limit - <b>Object</b>  No Entry' restriction - <b>Object</b></p> <p>I believe the changes to be totally without merit and another attack on the motorist. I suspect what ever this survey finds the Council will proceed with the change. As per the North Leigh 20mph survey, the Witney blanket 20 mph and closure of High Street.</p>
(4) Local Resident, (East End North Leigh, East End)	<p>40mph speed limit - <b>Object</b>  No Entry' restriction - <b>Object</b></p> <p>Not needed and more restrictions on motorists as per Witney High Street, Witney Blanket 20mph and North Leigh blanket 20mph.</p>
(5) Local Resident, (North Leigh, A4095)	<p>40mph speed limit - <b>Object</b>  No Entry' restriction - <b>Support</b></p> <p>It is totally unnecessary to extend the 40mph on the A4095. I support an entry exit system that is in place at the moment at North Lodge as it makes total sense.</p>
(6) Local Resident, (North Leigh, A4095)	<p>40mph speed limit - <b>Object</b>  No Entry' restriction - <b>Support</b></p> <p>I am directly affected by the 40mph limit proposal as I live on the section of road between the two entrances to North Leigh, but I do not want any extension of the limit as it is completely unnecessary.</p>
(7) Local Resident, (East End, East End)	<p>40mph speed limit - <b>Support</b>  No Entry' restriction - <b>Support</b></p>

	<p>Although I support the current proposals I feel it would be more appropriate if the existing 40mph limit was extended to include the junction with Akeman Road.</p>
<p>(8) Local Resident, (East End, Unnamed Road)</p>	<p>40mph speed limit - <b>Support</b>  No Entry' restriction - <b>Support</b></p> <p>Safety</p>
<p>(9) Local Resident, (North Leigh, Cuckamus Lane)</p>	<p>40mph speed limit - <b>Support</b>  No Entry' restriction - <b>Support</b></p> <p>Seems like a minimal change and addresses the clear need to prevent vehicles trying to enter the new exit road.</p>
<p>(10) Local Cllr, (North Leigh, East End)</p>	<p>40mph speed limit - <b>Support</b>  No Entry' restriction - <b>Support</b></p> <p>While I support the proposal I do not believe that the proposed 40mph Speed Limit extension goes far enough. In my opinion the whole length of the A4095 between the junction with Common Road and the end of the 40mph limit at Freeland should be included.</p>
<p>(11) Local Resident, (North Leigh, Ladywell)</p>	<p>40mph speed limit - <b>Support</b>  No Entry' restriction - <b>Support</b></p> <p>With the proposed cycle path on this stretch of road a 40mph is desirable.</p>
<p>(12) Local Resident, (North Leigh , Common Road)</p>	<p>40mph speed limit - <b>Support</b>  No Entry' restriction - <b>Support</b></p>

	<p>Reduction from 50 to 40 is a sensible measure that will improve overall safety on this busy road. The proposed 'no entry' signage is also an essential safety addition given the position of the exit on to the A4095, and that no such signage is currently in place</p>
<p>(13) Local Resident, (North Leigh, Witney, Breakspear Way)</p>	<p>40mph speed limit - <b>Support</b> No Entry' restriction - <b>Support</b></p> <p>I support the limit and no entry. The limit is a better speed from which to slow down to enter either Park Road, North Leigh or Estelle Manor. It is also a better speed to exit these places and re enter the A4095.</p>