

CABINET – 18 OCTOBER 2022

ITEM 4 – QUESTIONS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Questions	Cabinet Member
<p>1. COUNCILLOR JOHN HOWSON</p> <p>Will he explain the present situation with regard to funding the Woodstock Road corridor study that was the subject of consultation in the autumn of 2021?</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR ANDREW GANT, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT</p> <p>I would refer Cllr Howson to agenda item 7 (Annex 4):</p> <p>Agenda Document for Cabinet, 18/10/2022 14:00 (oxfordshire.gov.uk)</p>
<p>2. COUNCILLOR SUSSANA PRESSEL</p> <p>I strongly support the traffic filters in principle, and I'd like to thank all members of Cabinet for the enormous amount of work you are putting in on this issue and many others.</p> <p>Everyone in my division certainly agrees that something MUST be done urgently about congestion, pollution and accidents in Botley Road, Frideswide Square and Thames Street. The city centre seems to be gridlocked at most peak hours and every weekend, because of cars queuing for the car parks. However, the residents all think that the current proposals will <i>increase</i> traffic in these streets. Even our officers admit that this is the case! If <i>all the traffic</i> to the Westgate car park and to Worcester Street car park has to come along Botley Road, with no traffic filter to stop them,</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR ANDREW GANT, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT AND COUNCILLOR DUNCAN ENRIGHT, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRAVEL & DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY</p> <p>Officers and Cabinet Members are still working on a response.</p>

Questions	Cabinet Member
<p>conditions will be even worse than they are now, which would be intolerable.</p> <p>I have come up with several ways of reducing the traffic and I hope you will bear them in mind. Firstly, you could move the Thames Street filter slightly and send the traffic for the Westgate car park along Abingdon Road instead. That has the advantage that traffic from that direction has plenty of space to queue, without blocking other traffic. Secondly, you could decide not to give 100 free permits to residents in Botley, North Hinksey and Cumnor. Why on earth would we want to encourage people from outside the City to drive into town, past a large park and ride facility?! Thirdly, you could make charges at Seacourt Park and Ride even cheaper and advertise this clearly to all traffic approaching from the west. Fourthly, you could have a sign before the park and ride telling motorists how long they are likely to queue for the car parks. Fifthly, you could arrange for the City Council to raise the prices in their city centre car parks, so that you can put pressure on the Westgate to raise their parking charges still further.</p> <p>Will you please adopt at least some of these suggestions – or come up with better ways of reducing traffic in Botley Road - so that residents in my division will know that you are heeding their anger and despair?</p>	
<p>3. COUNCILLOR SUSSANA PRESSEL</p>	<p>COUNCILLOR ANDREW GANT, CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT AND COUNCILLOR DUNCAN ENRIGHT, CABINET MEMBER FOR TRAVEL & DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY</p>

Questions	Cabinet Member
If the trial scheme for traffic filters goes ahead and if congestion, pollution and accidents do not reduce sufficiently in Botley Road, Frideswide Square and Thames Street as a result, what will you do?	Officers and Cabinet Members are still working on a response.