

**CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT – 23 NOVEMBER 2017**  
**PROPOSED 30MPH SPEED LIMIT A4095 WITNEY ROAD LONG**  
**HANBOROUGH**

**Report by Director for Infrastructure Delivery**

**Introduction**

1. This report presents responses received in the course of a statutory consultation on a proposal to extend the 30mph speed limit on the A4095 Witney Road westwards by approximately 75 metres in place of the current 40mph speed limit.

**Background**

2. The proposals have been put forward to improve safety of all road users in the vicinity of a new access road serving residential development on the south side of the road. A plan showing the proposals is provided at Annex 1.

**Consultation**

3. Formal consultation on the proposal was carried out between 12 October and 10 November 2017. A public notice was placed in the Oxford Times newspaper, and sent to statutory consultees, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, Hanborough Parish Council and the local County Councillor.
4. Three responses were received. One objection from a member of the public on the grounds that the proposal was unnecessary taking account of the congested nature of the road at peak times and also noting wider concerns over transport provision and the impact of further development in the village. The local county councillor commented that the 30mph speed limit should be extended further to the west to include the junction with Wroslyn Road and Thames Valley Police expressed no objection. These responses are summarised at Annex 2. Copies of the full responses are available for inspection by County Councillors.

**Response to objection.**

5. The objection from the member of the public is noted, but the proposed extension of the speed limit is very limited and is judged to be required due to the construction of the new junction giving access to the new residential development.

6. It is recognised in respect of the request by the local county councillor to extend the proposed speed limit westwards to the junction with Wroslyn Road that similar representations have been made previously. However, this stretch of road was included in a comprehensive review of speed limits on the County's A and B roads completed in 2011. No change was then recommended. Noting that west of the development which is funding the current proposal, the character of the road remains largely unchanged since this review and also the accident record – including at the Wroslyn Road junction - is very modest (one slight injury accident has been reported in the past 5-years) it is not considered appropriate to reduce the speed limit further to the west than is currently proposed.
7. The response of Thames valley Police expressing no objection is noted

### **How the Project supports LTP4 Objectives**

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

### **Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)**

9. Funding for the amended speed limit has been provided by the developers of the adjacent residential development, whilst the appraisal of the proposals and consultation has been undertaken by council officers as part of their normal duties.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

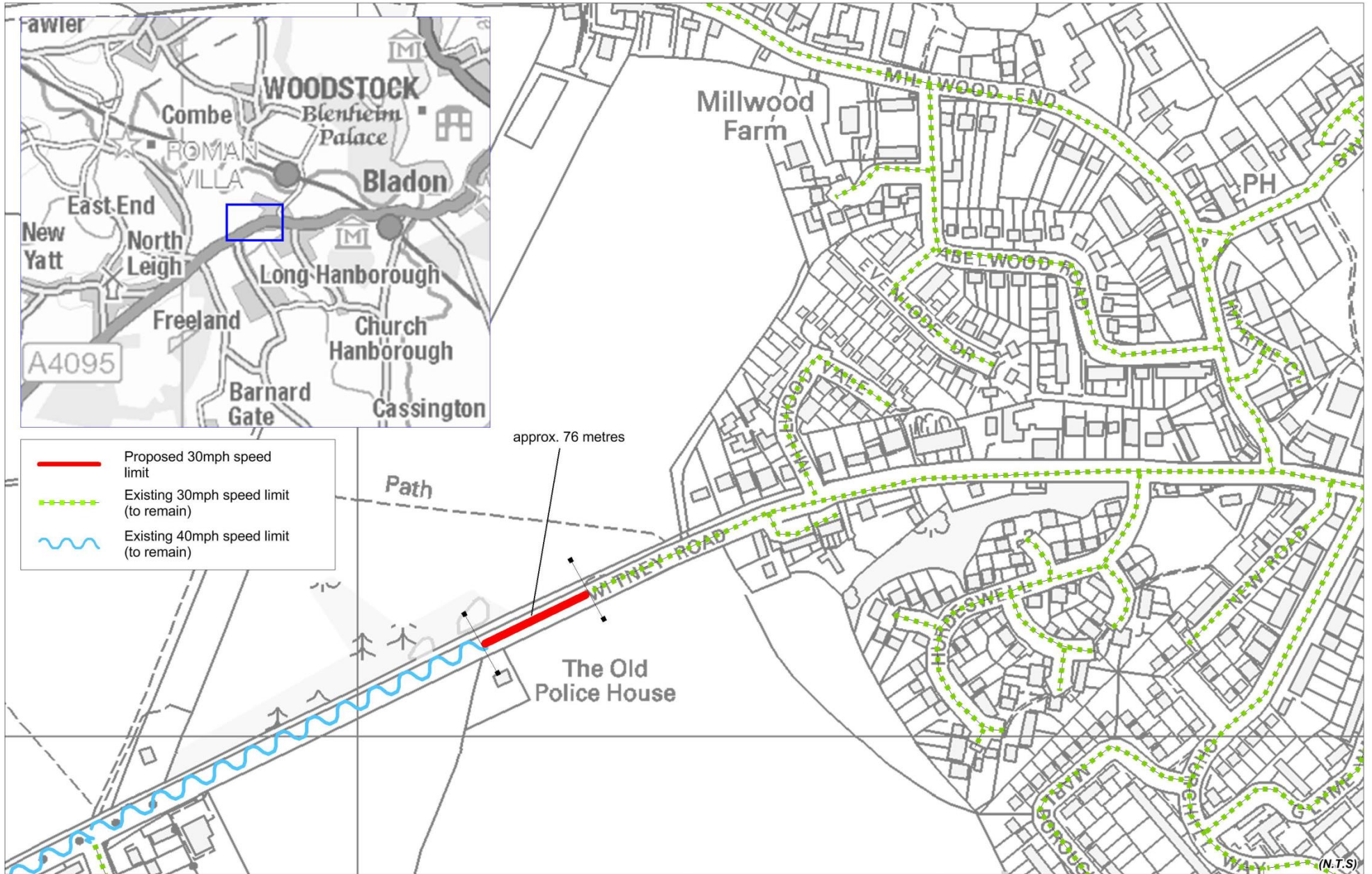
10. **The Cabinet Member for the Environment is RECOMMENDED to approve proposals to extend the 30mph speed limit on the A4095 Witney Road westwards by approximately 75 metres in place of the current 40mph speed limit as advertised.**

OWEN JENKINS  
Director for Infrastructure Delivery

Background papers:           Plan of proposed zebra crossing  
  Consultation responses

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November 2017



- Proposed 30mph speed limit
- Existing 30mph speed limit (to remain)
- Existing 40mph speed limit (to remain)

RESPONDENT	SUMMARISED COMMENTS
(1) County Cllr, (Hanborough & Minster Lovell)	<b>No objection</b> - would argue that it should be extended further to the west just as you enter the Freeland section of the road. This is because the junction on Wroslyn Road onto the A4095 is equally as busy and is often difficult to pull out with cars travelling 40mph plus.
(2) Local Resident, (Manor Road, Witney)	<b>Object</b> - The traffic is thick in this area at peak times. It is more of a useful road to keep the flow. Congestion from Witney to Oxford is hideous and the cameras in Bladon ensure the traffic is safe. Unnecessary worry as the residents of Long Hanborough are protesting larger changes and the commuters are missing a car park at the train station/ better bus service in this rural area.
(3) Thames Valley Police	<b>No Objection-</b> New development will add and extend the building line towards Witney although I have some concerns that the new access which appears to remain in the current limit will not add direct character change. Drivers may recognise the new housing which is behind a hedge but higher than 30mph speeds may occur on a road that has already attracted mobile enforcement. Residents may be disappointed in residual speeds, noting that enforcement will be evidence based on road safety grounds.