

Divisions affected: *Banbury Hardwick; Banbury Ruscote*

**CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT –
28 APRIL 2022**

**BANBURY: A422 STRATFORD ROAD - PROPOSED 20MPH SPEED
LIMIT**

Report by Corporate Director, Environment and Place

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Cabinet Member for Highway Management is RECOMMENDED to approve the proposed introduction of 20mph speed limit as advertised.

Executive summary

2. This report presents responses received to a statutory consultation on the proposed introduction of a 20mph speed limit on the A422 Stratford Road at Banbury as shown in **Annex 1**.

Financial Implications

3. Funding for consultation on the proposals has been provided by the 20mph Programme (North) 2022-23

Equality and Inclusion Implications

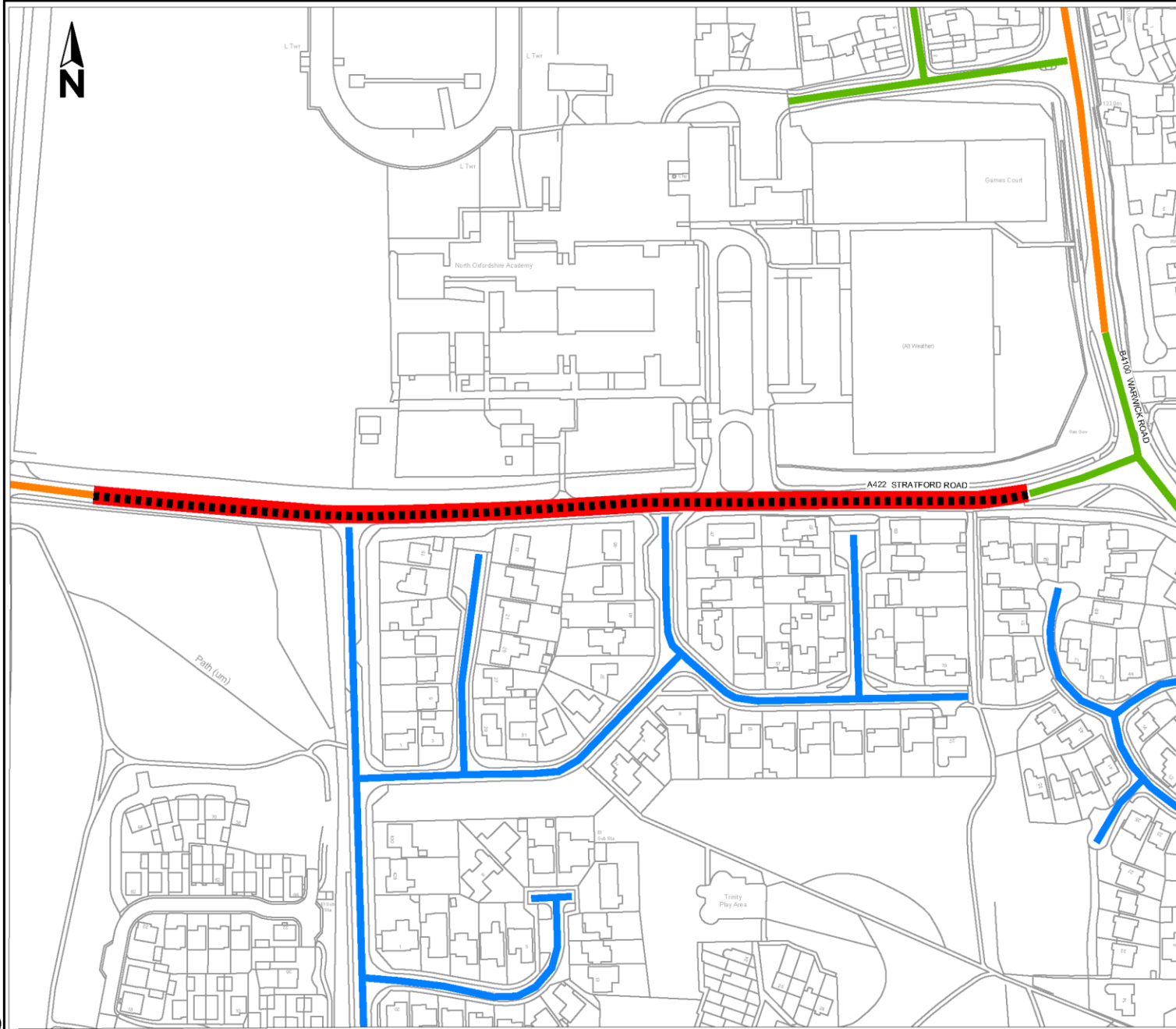
4. No implications in respect of equalities or inclusion have been identified in respect of the proposals.

Sustainability Implications

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

Consultation

6. The Formal consultation was carried out between 03 February and 04 March 2022. A notice was published in the Banbury Guardian newspaper and an email sent to statutory consultees, including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue Service, Ambulance service, Bus operators, Banbury Town Council, Cherwell



Drawing No.		Revision							
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Key									
	Proposed 20mph speed Limit in place of existing 30mph speed limit								
	Existing 20mph Zone to remain								
	Existing 30mph Speed Limit to remain								
	Existing 40mph Speed Limit to remain								
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<p>OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL Bill Cotton Corporate Director for Environment and Place Communities Oxfordshire County Council County Hall Oxford OX1 1ND Tel: 0345 310 11 11 Fax: (01865) 241677</p>									
Project title									
A422 STRATFORD ROAD BANBURY									
Drawing title									
PROPOSED 20MPH SPEED LIMIT									
Drawing Status									
Scale @ A3	Drawn by	Checked by	Approved by						
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RESPONDENT	COMMENTS
(1) Thames Valley Police, (Traffic Management Officer)	<p>No objection – Thames Valley Police are not opposed to lowering speed limits providing they are appropriate to the road environment and likely to have casualty reduction benefits. All aspects of the proposed speed limit are taken into account i.e. collision history, speed of existing traffic, road environment, enforcement, road character and driver perception etc.</p> <p>The current speed of traffic is a reliable indicator of how acceptable a new speed limit would be. The recognised way of ascertaining this level of self-compliance is the mean speed. If the mean speed is 4 mph or more over the proposed limit it is unlikely to be effective without other measures such as engineering or continual enforcement.</p> <p>There is a proven link between road environment/character and driver's speed. Drivers must respect the need for a speed limit. If it is not accepted as realistic it will quickly be abused and be the source of constant demands for police action. The police stance still reflects that 20 mph limits and zones should still be self-enforcing.</p> <p>The policy of Thames Valley Police is to use sound practical and realistic criteria (Circular Roads 1/2013) when responding to Highway Authorities in an effort to promote consistency and to reduce the burden of constant and unnecessary enforcement. The advice shown in Circular Roads 1/2013 states Speed Limit should not be used to attempt to solve the problem of isolated hazards, for example a single junction or reduced forward visibility. No speed data has been received in support of these proposals.</p> <p>I acknowledge the presence of a large School within this proposed limit but raise concern at the level of compliance that a signed only limit is likely to achieve. I strongly urge should this proposal go ahead it is monitored with a view to additional engineering measures going forward.</p> <p>Future complaints of poor compliance must be directed in the first instance to the Highway Authority. Having visited the location this week can I make you aware there are 30 repeater speed limit signs within a street lit area which is not permitted.</p>
(2) Cherwell District Council	No objection

<p>(3) Local County Cllr, (Banbury Ruscote division)</p>	<p>Support – Can you note that I as local member for Banbury Ruscote fully endorse a 20MPH implementation after due process of consultation from Banbury rise junction to the traffic lights at Warwick road on the A422 Stratford road in the proximity of North Oxfordshire Academy School.</p>
<p>(4) As an individual, (Banbury, Bailey Road)</p>	<p>Object - In practice 30mph is ok on this stretch - queues and pedestrians using the zebra naturally slow the traffic anyway at busy times. The real problem is the 40mph zone between Bretch Hill and Drayton which should be reduced to 30mph. It briefly encourages traffic to accelerate and then drivers are reluctant to slow down - that's the real danger.</p>
<p>(5) As an individual, (Banbury, George Parish Road)</p>	<p>Object - This road is generally not that busy outside school drop off and pickup times when traffic is at stand still either because of the two crossing on this road or buses or cars trying to turn in to the school so speed reduction with the school in mind is pointless.</p> <p>The only issue with speed on this road is the vehicles who are exceeding the current speed limit of 30mph which is an issue on many others reducing the speed limit to 20mph will not stop those who are happy to exceed the current limit as proved on other 20mph road i.e Bretch hill road from the Stratford Road turning until the second chicane where some car accelerate to high speed some of the worst offenders must be doing 60mph by the time they have to brake. This road is a straight road with plenty of safe crossings on it so in my mind this idea make no logical sense.</p>
<p>(6) As an individual, (Banbury, Ironstones)</p>	<p>Object - I object. There is only one turning onto the Bretch Hill estate on this road. Nothing has changed. This is unnecessarily complex Schoolchildren cross this road twice a day. Other schoolchildren get deposited and picked up by car twice a day. Traffic is very slow at these times. Otherwise, this is the main route to Stratford.</p>
<p>(7) Online response, (Banbury, Warwick Road)</p>	<p>Object - Said road has already been changed several times. Makes no sense to go from 40mph to 20mph. Better to rezone as 30mph all way from Drayton village to junction of Warwick Road.</p>
<p>(8) As an individual, (Banbury, Warwick Road)</p>	<p>Object - There is no need, there are no accidents, more often than not the traffic is too heavy to allow for fast speeds put your efforts into areas that need it</p>

<p>(9) As an individual, (Oxford, Rymers Lane)</p>	<p>Object - This is a major 'A' road into Banbury from the West and such a low-speed limit is completely unreasonable.</p>
<p>(10) As an individual, (Banbury, Bath Road)</p>	<p>Support - More people are living, working and walking (and cycling) in this area, which also passes the front of a large secondary school (NOA). Many students cross the road here and many cars turn in and out. Slower speeds here are a very sensible measure to improve safety and also help to encourage more people to walk and cycle. I hope that signage will clearly show the new limit.</p> <p>I would also strongly support the extension of 20mph limits to all residential areas of Banbury for similar reasons to those stated above. Encouraging more active travel will also help to reduce pollution and otherwise improve peoples' health and fitness. Feeling safer on the road as a result of motor vehicles moving more slowly is an important intervention to encourage this.</p>
<p>(11) As an individual, (Banbury, Bretch hill)</p>	<p>Support - It should calm traffic and make the area safer for surrounding schools and residents. However, consideration needs to be given to enforcement of the new speed limit.</p>
<p>(12) As an individual, (Banbury, Broughton Road)</p>	<p>Support - I believe that a reduced speed limit will help to reduce accidents involving vehicles, pedestrians & animals along this road although I have lived in Banbury for 10 years I regularly visit Coventry where numerous traffic calming methods have been introduced & these seem to be working well.</p>
<p>(13) As part of a group/organisation, (Banbury, Hillside Close)</p>	<p>Support - This road passes the North Oxfordshire Academy (NOA), and therefore there are many pedestrians and cyclists - including children -use that road on a daily basis. It would be much safer for them as well as for the people who live around that area if the speed limit was 20mph. It will also help build a safer and greener town in general, where people are prioritised over motor vehicles.</p>
<p>(14) As an individual, (Banbury, Longfellow Road)</p>	<p>Support - This junction is already busy and with the increased traffic from the Bloor homes Banbury Rise estate there is increased chance of a collision, so keeping it at 20 is good. Also, the Banbury Fringe Walk from the south exits onto the A422 at this point, so slower traffic will make it easier to cross the road on foot to continue the walk. However, the A422 will end up with a short stretch of 40mph between a 20mph section (Banbury Rise) and 30mph (Drayton</p>

	village) which seems nonsensical. Why not make that section 30mph as well, to make it contiguous with the Drayton limit? As a driver I never accelerate into the 40 section because it is so short!
(15) As an individual, (Banbury, Nursery Drive)	Support - To make the space safer for pedestrians and cyclists
(16) As an individual, (Banbury, Osterley Grove)	Support - I'm a local delivery driver, and at busy times when the schoolchildren are using the paths and crossings, people need to slow down. This will hopefully avoid accidents. The current 30-40-30 into Drayton is pointless as it stands, as once you get to 40 you immediately have to slow down to 30 again. It should be 20 by the school and 30 through Drayton.
(17) As an individual, (Banbury, Townsend)	Support - This is a narrow road which I frequently cycle along. Cars and lorries often come up at speed behind me and are then forced to brake because it's not possible to pass, either because of oncoming traffic or because of poor visibility. A 20mph limit would make this road much safer for cyclists and pedestrians.
(18) As an individual, (Banbury, Warwick Road)	Support - We should be implementing 20mph limits across all Banbury residential streets, so I obviously support this small change. The road is outside a school and connected with existing 20mph limits
(19) As an individual, (Banbury, Winchester Close)	Support - I think all 30 mph roads in and around Banbury should be reduced to 20 mph and all other roads e.g. 40 and 50 should be reduced by at least a 10mph
(20) As an individual, (Banbury, Bismore Road)	Support - The level of traffic has increased dramatically. A serious look at reducing the speed levels throughout Banbury area needs to be implemented as a matter of urgency. There are many new housing estates, that have been built, in Banbury and the surrounding villages. The residents are crossing roads without adequate safety measures such as reduced speed limits, adequate safe crossing places, adequate and safe signage warning drivers of pedestrians crossing or entering/exiting new housing estates off main roads. More speed traffic cameras should be used to police and enforce this. Not only would this be a great deterrent it would also fund the council through fines to be able to implement other road safety measures that are desperately needed.

(21) As an individual, (Banbury, Oxford Road)	Support - Supporting safer for cyclists and pedestrians
(22) Online response, (Banbury, Stratford Road)	Support - It's a blind turning making it extremely likely to accidents if not taking caution. Not only that but there's no predestinarian crossing, putting people at high risk.
(23) As an individual, (King's Sutton, Orchard Way)	Support - Lower speed limits encourage active transport options (cycling, walking) which are good for health and environment. Also, better for emissions, and safer for non-car users.
(24) As part of a group/organisation, (Banbury)	No opinion