

Divisions affected: Kennington & Radley

**CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT –
17 NOVEMBER 2022**

SUNNINGWELL: PROPOSED 20MPH SPEED LIMITS

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 limits as advertised.

Executive summary

2. The report presents responses to a statutory consultation on the proposed introduction of 20mph speed limits in Sunningwell and Bayworth as shown in **Annex 1**.

Financial Implications

3. Funding for consultation and the proposals themselves has been provided by the County Council's 20mph Speed Limit Project

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 encourage walking and cycling within Sunningwell and Bayworth by making them safer and more attractive.

Consultation

6. Formal consultation was carried out between 21 September and 21 October 2022. A notice was published in the Oxfordshire Herald Series newspaper, and an email 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, South

November 2022



Sunningwell & Bayworth Overview Revision 1.0

Legend	
Proposed 20	
Existing 20	
Existing 30	
Existing 40	
Existing 50	
Existing NSL	
Not Public Highway	

© Crown Copyright and Database rights 10023943 2017

Rev.	Date	Purpose of revision	Drawn	Checked	Approved
1.0	14.06.22	Final Draft	C.R.		

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
 Owen Jenkins
 Director for Infrastructure Delivery
 Commandant
 Oxfordshire County Council
 County Hall
 New Road
 Oxford
 OX1 1TD
 Tel: 0845 310 1111

Project title: Sunningwell & Bayworth 20mph Scheme

Drawing title: Sunningwell & Bayworth 20mph Scheme

Sheets A3 to B3

Drawing Status

Scale @ A3	Drawn by: C.R.	Checked by	Approved by
	Date drawn 14.06.22	Date checked	Date approved

Oxfordshire Project No. & File Ref

Drawing No. 1.0 Revision 1.0

RESPONDENT	COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	<p>Concerns– Thames Valley Police welcome the opportunity to engage on plans for road safety improvement and acknowledge that 20mph limits can be a useful tool in road safety. There are other reasons 20mph limits may be desirable for communities, such as environmental concerns, and creating a shared space environment to encourage greater diversity of road users.</p> <p>Compliance with 20mph limits is a challenging issue as there is a difference between the achievable results of the various available schemes. For example a sign-only scheme will only have a limited effect on the mean speeds, as opposed to other schemes that influence the road environment, which is recognised as being key to achieving compliance. If a speed limit is set too low and is ignored then this could result in the vulnerable road user being less safe. It can also cause a dis-proportionate number of drivers to criminalise themselves and could bring the system of speed limits into disrepute.</p> <p>Thames Valley Police have no policy to enforce based on arbitrary speed limits alone but will enforce based on threat of harm, risk and resourcing. 20mph limits are not excluded from this and will be enforced where appropriate. There should be no expectation that the police would be able to provide regular enforcement if a speed limit is set too low as this could result in an unreasonable additional demand on police resources and there are no additional resources available to support extra enforcement. Messages from partners that police will not enforce need to be discouraged. Such messaging can encourage non-compliance and should be avoided.</p> <p>The policy of Thames Valley Police is to use sound practical and realistic criteria (Setting local speed limits - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)) 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.</p> <p>The key factors that should be taken into account in any decisions on local speed limits are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • history of collisions • road geometry and engineering • road function • composition of road users (including existing and potential levels of vulnerable road users) • existing traffic speeds • road environment

	<p>However I recognise Oxfordshire County Council now have their own Policy for Setting Speed Limits and I expect full compliance of that policy going forward in relation to both monitoring , future engineering and self-enforcement through Community Speed Watch .</p> <p>Our stance remains that primarily 20 mph speed limits and zones should be self-enforcing</p> <p>Speed limits should be considered as part of a package of measures to manage vehicle speeds and improve road safety. Changes to the highway (for example through narrowing, providing vertical traffic calming or re-aligning the road) may be required to encourage lower speeds in addition to any change in speed limit. Though these may be more expensive, they are more likely to be successful in the long term in achieving lower speeds without the need for increased police enforcement to penalise substantial numbers of motorists.</p>
<p>(2) Stagecoach Bus Company, (Head of Strategic Development & the Built Environment)</p>	<p>No objection – Stagecoach has no observations of representations to make in this instance.</p>
<p>(3) Member of public, (Oxford, Banbury Road)</p>	<p>Object – 20mph is extremely slow and this change has not been adequately justified, nor can it be since the road is perfectly safe and adequate to support traffic at the current speeds. Again this is an unnecessary change proposed by an unfit council which is fundamentally anti-car.</p> <p>Travel change: No</p>