CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAY MANAGEMENT – 20 JULY 2023

LAUNTON: PROPOSED 20MPH SPEED LIMITS

Report by Corporate Director, Environment and Place

RECOMMENDATION

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

Executive summary

2. The report presents responses to a statutory consultation on the proposed introduction of 20mph speed limits in Launton 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 Launton by making them safer and more attractive.

Formal consultation

6. Formal consultation was carried out between 08 June and 30 June 2023. A notice was published in the Bicester Advertiser 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, Cherwell District Council, the local District Cllrs, Launton parish council, Bicester town council, and the local County Councillor representing the Ploughley division.

Statutory Consultee Responses:

7. The sole statutory consultee response was from Thames Valley Police who reiterated their views concerning OCC's policy and practice regarding 20mph speed limits, they consider their response as 'having concerns' rather than an objection.

Other Responses:

- 8. A strong response via the online survey totalled 154 submissions. Analysis of those citing concerns identified four as supporters and one as an objector. One nominal objector also expressed support. The 138 supporters included 128 local residents, six members of the public, two families who use the local school, and two businesses. 15 Objectors included 12 local residents, two members of the public, and a business.
- 9. Objections centred around the proposals being ineffective and unnecessary (11), causing frustration, tailgating and a greater hazard (four), increasing pollution (two), and not being enforced (two). One respondent suggested the limit should be 15mph on the assumption drivers will exceed it by 5mph.
- 10. Those who responded online (154 responses), were also asked whether if the 20mph speed limit proposals were implemented, would it likely influence a change to their mode of travel in the area, the results of which are shown below

Travel Change	Number
Yes – walk/wheel more	34 (22%)
Yes - cycle more	17 (11%)
No	96 (62%)
Other	7 (5%)

11. The responses are shown in **Annex 2**, and copies of the original responses are available for inspection by County Councillors.

Officer response to objections/concerns

- 12. The main purpose of the scheme is to encourage greater use of active travel by reducing speeds; this is also expected to reduce accidents. The aim of reducing speed limits is to change driver's mindsets to make speeding socially unacceptable and make more environmentally friendly modes of travel such as walking and cycling more attractive, and also help reduce the Counties carbon footprint. This forms part of a countywide programme of works that seeks to deliver 'a safer place with a safer pace'.
- 13. The high response rate shows 90% in support. The authority considers objections along the lines of it being unjustified, anti-car, a waste of money, not

enforceable or pointless to not warrant amendments to a proposal. As such the authority has not addressed the comments made of this nature in this report.

Bill Cotton Corporate Director, Environment and Place

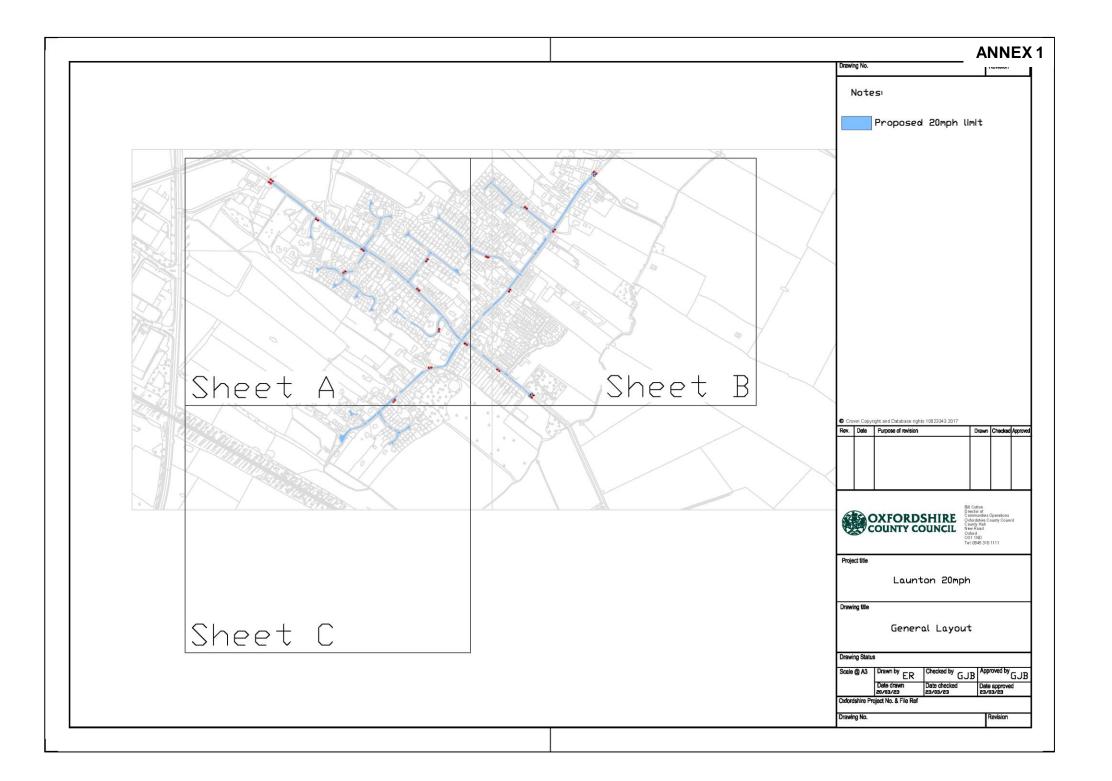
Annexes Annex 1: Consultation plan

Annex 2: Consultation responses

Contact Officers: Phil Whitfield 07912523497

Geoff Barrell 07392 318869

July 2023



RESPONDENT	COMMENTS
(1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	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. 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.
	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. 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.
	The key factors that should be taken into account in any decisions on local speed limits are: • 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

	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. Our stance remains that primarily 20 mph speed limits and zones should be self-enforcing 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.
(2) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Object – The 30mph is not enforced what difference is reducing to 30mph going to make people are so impatient as a resident when trying to park on Station Road drivers mount the pavement and won't wait are aggressive verbally too and drive like lunatics I don't see how are lower speed limit is going to help? It is also really quite difficult to drive at 20mph Travel change: No
(3) Local Resident, (Launton, West End)	Object – Most modern cars idle above 20mph making it physically impossible to drive at 20mph They have also been shown to be actively ignored in many instances. 20mph zones also lead to an increase in emissions. Slower traffic, more congestion, more pollution. I'm also concerned that people may excessively speed out the a 20mph. Further increase the danger to villagers and again contributing to an increase pollution in the village. Travel change: No
(4) Local Resident, (Launton, West End)	Object – The current speed limit is not enforced. Unless enforcement measures accompany a change in the limit it's a waste of time, money and effort and will cause the potential for more road rage and threats to pedestrians, cyclists and other cars

	Travel change: No
(5) Local Resident, (Launton, Yew Tree Close)	Object – Opposed. Unnecessary restriction across the whole 24 hr period. Not focused on relevant times. School 20mph zone for school times is sufficient. Travel change: No
(6) Local Resident, (Launton, Blackthorn Road)	Object – I believe that a 20mph speed limit is unrealistically slow for Launton. With the possible exception of the area around the crossroads, which in any case is scheduled for improvement, the existing 30mph limit appears to be reasonable for a road which is reasonably wide and has pavements on both sides. Most villagers I speak to feel this way - the issue we have is with cars that exceed the existing 30mph limit. This being the case, the most sensible solution would seem to enforce the existing limit with regular police speed enforcement varied across different times of the day. Additional to this objection, I should add that my experience of where similar limits have recently been imposed e.g. Horton cum Studley is not positive. Driving at or around 20mph induces tailgating, and on some occasions driver's overtake, creating an additional hazard that is not generally present where traffic does 30mph. Travel change: No
(7) Local Resident, (Launton, Sherwood Close)	Object – Speeding vehicles through the village is becoming dangerous and the increased traffic is polluting the environment and damaging the health of the villagers. Travel change: No
(8) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Object – 30 mph is absolutely fine to be driving through the village, there are enough cars stopping anyone reaching speeds above this. The school also is 20 mph during busy periods so again keeping speeds low Travel change: No

(9) Member of public, (Launton, Station road)	Object – It's not that busy that it needs to be a 20mph. There just needs to be mirrors at the junctions where it is difficult to see OR double yellows that prevent traffic from obscuring those junctions with bad parking. Travel change: No
(10) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Object – 30! Mph is slow enough Travel change: No
(11) Local Resident, (Launton, The Glades)	Object – The speed limit is not a problem. Most people are sensible and follow it and it had never caused me to to feel that I can't safely cycle on the road or walk on the path. The issue in Launton is the increase in traffic that has occurred over the last 25 years. More and more people are using Launton as a bypass to get to Aylesbury because they do not want to sit in the traffic on the A41 caused by more cars and roadworks. Changing the speed limit will not stop people using Launton as a bypass or rat run. Travel change: No
(12) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Object – Until there are factual figures for the reduction of pollution for both diesel and petrol exhausts: Smaller engines will produce more pollution by changing down a gear and spending more time in the area. I believe 20 mph will produce more pollution and be a wrong decision. Travel change: No
(13) As a business, (The Launton Arms, Launton, West End)	Object – Changing the speed limit will have very little effect on the main issue or excessive traffic through the village which due to the nature of its link from one side of Bicester to the A41 causes a direct rat run. The roads are often so clogged that deliveries to my business, The Launton Arms, or customers struggle to reach us. Contrary to many views, I have rarely witness excessive speeding, although I am sure it happens from time to time, but reducing the limit to 20 will have no effect and simply slow residents and visitors access at the good times when traffic isn't forcing it down to under 20 anyway.

	Travel change: No
(14) Local Resident, (Not stated)	Object – Another CONTROL measure by OCC. No one drives at 20 so why put it in. Looney lefty council. Travel change: Other No I will continue doing 30 mph in my PETROL CAR.
(15) Member of public, (Witney, Oxford Hill)	Object – No need to reduce speed here and waste money on countless signs for 1200 people population. 20 signs are more useful in town centres, schools, retirement communities or business car parks (if latter wanted them). There is no data showing this is necessary for the village and their community and simply shows this is a political decision and not a road safety decision. The decision to implement this anyway and ignore the public and community view is a disgrace and undoubtedly another innocent village will be picked on. Travel change: No
(16) Local Resident, (Sycamore Close)	Object – Traffic already moves quite slowly around the village due to the cars parked along the roads. Those vehicles that may go through the village as a rat run won't be put off by a lower speed limit. I think the alterations done to the road going through Aynho is more effective in slowing traffic Travel change: No
(17) Member of public, (Blackthorn, Station Road)	Concerns – Fully support the reduction of speed limit, but with the horrendous state of the road through the village, combined with the on street parking turning the village into a permanent chicane, would suggest 20 is too fast to be safe. In the knowledge that the majority of drivers will travel 5mph above the speed limit in most reduced speed areas, and the lack of enforcement that will be in place, suggest a 15mph limit is more appropriate Travel change: No

(18) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester Road)	Concerns – Amount of speeding vehicles taking a shortcut through the village Travel change: No
(19) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester Road)	Concerns – The amount of speeding traffic through the village has increased greatly and nobody takes any notice of the flashing speed sign, even when the schoolchildren are leaving the school. It is a problem trying to get out of the drive at the best of times and the condition of the main road through the village is disgusting. Travel change: No
(20) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Concerns – I do not believe there is a need for it. The way cars are parked along the road does not make it possible to drive too fast through the village. Travel change: No
(21) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Concerns – I am afraid to walk and cross roads in the village with my dog or on my own due to the speed and number of vehicles in the village Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(22) Member of public, (Bicester, Kennedy Road)	Support – The village is currently a rat-run with vehicles driving far too fast. A lower speed limit would encourage more considerate driving, and encourage people to use official routes to Aylesbury rather than the village. Travel change: Yes - cycle more
(23) Member of public, (Bicester, Ludlow Road)	Support – For the safety of children at Launton School Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more

(24) Member of public, (Bicester, Willow Drive)	Support – There should be slower traffic due to school children Travel change: No
(25) Local Resident, (Bicester, Bicester road)	Support – A small quiet village is experience lots of traffic and road damage due to speeding and it being used as a shortcut. Risk to school children is high too due to inconsiderate drivers. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(26) Local Resident, (Bicester, Grebe)	Support – Safety, speeding through village Travel change: No
(27) Local Resident, (Bicester, Turnberry Close)	Support – I support this to align Launton with many other villages. As a popular cut through to the A41 this will slow vehicles down. My children attend the school and so safety is a priority. Travel change: No
(28) Member of public, (Bicester, Mallards Way)	Support – I have family and strong community relations with Launton so I travel to/through it many times a week. It is a very busy road at certain times of the day and frankly I am amazed that the 20 mph limit has not been introduced already. Travel change: No

(29) Member of public, (Blackthorn, Lower Road)	Support – To slow cars when dropping my child to the school. Car go too fast and children trying to cross the road (no zebra crossing either) Travel change: No
(30) School Parent, (Bucknell, Middleton Road)	Support – It will make it safer for the children that go to the school and for the children that live in the village Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(31) Local Resident, (Caversfield, Harmon Close)	Support – My son goes to launton primary school and the cars I see that are going so fast is very dangerous especially when there are so many children around in the morning and afternoon. Travel change: No
(32) Local Resident, (Grendon underwood, The Firs)	Support – The speed cars drive outside the school is at times is incredibly scary and needs a resolution. Having no crossing outside the front of the school as well is really challenging too when trying to cross the road with children when cars are always driving fast Travel change: No
(33) Local Resident, (Launton, Beech Road)	Support – It's in the hope that the traffic may slow down a bit. People using the village as a rat run rarely stick to 30. Rush hour is dangerous if trying to get out of our estate even in a car. The school is on the main road which makes the children vulnerable. The only things which seem to slow the traffic are parked cars and us residents who deliberately drive less than 30. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(34) Local Resident, (Launton, Beech Road)	Support – There is a lot of traffic coming through launton and it is very difficult to cross the road safely at times The surface of the road is poor, making it unsafe in areas where it is uneven

	Care must be taken especially in wet weather when the road surface has much standing water so as not to soak pedestrians Many cars travel through the village above the speed limit Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(35) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester Road)	Support – I have lived on Bicester Road Launton for 29 years. It has always been seen as a cut through from the A41 Aylesbury Road to north Bicester. In that time the road has become significantly busier and the village has grown in population thereby causing conflict. Vehicles travelling at 30mph and in a lot of cases faster, create a risk to pedestrians. I'm sure a lot of parents are deterred from walking their children to school in Launton because of the speed of vehicles, particularly on wet days when the poor road condition makes walking hazardous. It is also my belief that a 20mph speed limit will help reduce traffic noise due to the poor road condition. Vehicles start using the village as a cut through from around 4.30am disturbing residents, particularly during the summer when windows are open. Please enact this traffic order it will improve the life of residents no end. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(36) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester Road)	Support – To slow down the traffic through the village and encourage the traffic to use the bypass. Travel change: No
(37) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester road)	Support – Great news Launton is used as a rat run and speeding traffic especially passing the school, Bicester road and Blackthorn rd. Couldn't come sooner. Most local villages have implemented this and Launton is over due. Regards Local resident Travel change: Yes - cycle more

(38) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester Road)	Support – i total agree with the twenty mph in the village but unless it is being monitored by the police it will not do any good cars will slow down for the first few weeks then go back to there usual speed Travel change: No
(39) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester Road)	Support – The village has gotten very busy traffic wise with recent road works around Bicester, forcing people to use it as a rat run. These drivers aren't always cautious. There are lots of children and elderly people in the village too, and accessing the village shop on the main road is very dangerous. A slower speed limit should help dissuade people from cutting through, and if not, make them drive more cautiously. Travel change: No
(40) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester Road)	Support – Want 20 mph Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(41) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester road)	Support – Purely for safety reasons. Makes sense for everyone, drivers and pedestrians plus children included Travel change: Yes - cycle more
(42) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester Road)	Support – The village attracts far too much traffic that is just passing through. It is currently a very dangerous proposition to attempt backing ot of my driveway on Bicester Road. The 20 mile an hour speed limit would discourage through traffic and be safer for residents and schoolchildren. Travel change: No
(43) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester Road)	Support – Speed awareness is so important in The village. It will remind people to slow down and prevent accidents. Almost every village around here has the same restriction.

	Travel change: No
(44) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester Road)	Support – We are a drive through village - all residents and guests need to respect a village way of life. Adhere to the fact a speed limit is in place 20 is plenty. Travel change: No
(45) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester Road)	Support – To try to make sure that the 20mph Speed Limit is actually going to take place! Travel change: No
(46) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester Road)	Support – Cut through traffic is way too fast with no pedestrian safety in place. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(47) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester Road)	Support – I live on the main road and as an able bodied person I have sometimes had to run across the road to avoid being hit by speeding drivers, at least a 20 zone might make them slow to 30. A speed camera would be an additional deterrent. Travel change: No
(48) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester Road)	Support – The road has become very dangerous. Vehicles do not slow and lots of vans parked on road making it difficult to see when crossing the road or leaving driveway. Travel change: No

(49) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester Road)	Support – I walk my child to school every day and feel as though this is a safe speed limit Travel change: No
(50) Local Resident, (Launton, Blackthorn Road)	Support – 30 mph is now too fast for the village environment, with older people and children possibly in the majority of those trying to cross roads. As 20 mph is tecognised as a safer speed we should be aiming to introduce this speed limit. Travel change: No
(51) Local Resident, (Launton, Blackthorn Road)	Support – Traffic calming in the village., safer., less noise., discourage rat run through the village to and from a41., Travel change: No
(52) Local Resident, (Launton, Blenheim Drive)	Support – As the road connects the A41 from Aylesbury to Bicester the village is a short cut with a fair amount of traffic not adhering to the 30 mph speed limit. I have been overtaken on a few occasions driving through the village which is dangerous and it is only a matter of time before there is a serious accident. Also the deterioration in the road surface is very evident. Travel change: No
(53) Local Resident, (Launton, Blenheim Drive)	Support – 30 is much too quick for such a small village Travel change: No
(54) Local Resident, (Launton, Blenheim Drive)	Support – 1. Many roads are narrow for modern vehicular traffic, eg: Station Road, Blackthorn Road, West End. 2. On-street parking makes using the roads difficult at times of high traffic. 3. Fitting traffic lights at the centre of the village is not practical, especially in Station Road and West End, because of parked cars.

	4 Do not like the fitting of speed humps: a reduced speed limit (eg 20mph) solution would be much more acceptable to drivers and cyclists; and would, hopefully, also make life very much easier for pedestrians trying to cross the road. Travel change: No
(55) Local Resident, (Launton, Chestnut Close)	Support – Increasing volumes of traffic using the village as a rat run and driving dangerously Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(56) Local Resident, (Launton, Chestnut Close)	Support – People are getting knocked of bikes and cars getting hit, particular speeding is happening in evening and early morning by delivery drivers. There needs to be a reduction in speed but in addition there needs to be policing of this. The crossroads need traffic lights (may be part time during peak hours) as that's a death spot waiting to happen, particularly in light of the proposed new development at grange farm. This would also help reduce the number of commuters speeding to through the village to gain an advantage at the blackthorn road A41 crossing (another area which should have traffic lights) Travel change: No
(57) Local Resident, (Launton, Coppice Way)	Support – The traffic through the village is dangerous! I have a young baby and trying to cross the road when out and about is a nightmare. There is an accident waiting to happen. Travel change: No
(58) Local Resident, (Launton, Forest Close)	Support – It is seriously dangerous now the speed atwhich people drive through the vilage on n what is a straight road, it is only a matter of time before someone gets injured or killed. Travel change: No
(59) Local Resident, (Launton, Sherwood Close)	Support – Cars speeding through village

	Travel change: No
(60) Local Resident, (Launton, Sherwood Close)	Support – Traffic through our.village is heavy and fast and our footpaths are worn. Walkers and children going to school are at danger and a speed limit would help traffic calming. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(61) Local Resident, (Launton, SherwoodCclose)	Support – Many cars ignore the 30mph, traffic has become more heavy and children/pets elderly are at risk. Crossing the road can take ages and be risky Travel change: Yes - cycle more
(62) Local Resident, (Launton, Sherwood Close)	Support – I walk my dog morning and evening every day and over the last 2 years I've had him I'm shocked by the speed of so many vehicles using Launton as a rat run. Travel change: No
(63) Local Resident, (Launton, Sherwood Close)	Support – The volume of traffic through the village is making it a dangerous place to live. The speed of the rat runners will cause a nasty accident soon. Will we have to wait till someone dies to stop the speeders? Travel change: Yes - cycle more
(64) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – Bicester and Blackthorn roads have long been a rat run by motorists attempting to avoid the slightly longer journey from the A41 to the Ring road north west of the village and the Buckingham Rd. Volumes of traffic have increased dramatically in recent years making the area dangerous for other road users and pedestrians and significantly reducing the quality of life for residents. Likewise, in Station Rd, vehicles accelerate away from the crossroads but do not have a clear view of oncoming traffic or obstructions due to a slight set in the road.

	For years an argument has been put forward that those who speed will take no notice of lower limits but in my view, having the vast majority of people adhering to a lower limit would greatly improve the situation. I would also like to see a traffic calming measure at the entrance to the village from Station Rd from the north. This was proposed by the Parish Council several years ago but was stymied by local interested parties on wholly unworthy arguments. The proposal was to introduce a one directional narrowing (achieved solely by road markings and signage - no humps) Travel change: Yes - cycle more
(65) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – LAunton is used as a rat-run, when it's not busy at rush hours, the straight roads of Bicester Road, Station Road and Blackthorn road are plagued with vehicles speeding. Although the village has a speedwatch group, unfortunately drivers see the volunteers and slow down. I live on Station Road and cars go past so quickly by the time they reach Yew Tree Close, it's almost impossible to get out of drive-ways and side roads safely. With volume of traffic and speed of vehicles, crossing the roads is so difficult especially for elderly, less able and children or parents with children Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(66) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – To encourage motorists to slow down whilst travelling through a built up area with many adults and young children walking along narrow footpaths. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(67) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – Having lived in the village for nearly 8 years close to the national speed limit sign, we've had a cat hit by a car who drove off and have many cars speeding past in the 30, very keen to see the limit lowered. We walk every morning through the village and it's dangerous to cross at the crossroads with the speed some of the rat runners are driving at. Travel change: Yes - cycle more

(68) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – People go far too fast through the village, hopefully reducing the limit will help slow people down Travel change: No
(69) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – Very fast traffic today along narrow roads with significant pedestrian usage. Especially during school run times. It would promote walking and cycling to school if the roads were slower traffic and minimal traffic as it would be a less appealing rat run between the Bicester ring road and a41. In bad weather cars driving at 30mph splash pedestrians on the pavement. At 20mph it would be easier for cars to slow and avoid doing this. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(70) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – Specifically, I live in Station Road, and the part-blind nature of the right turn into Bicester Road is always a potential risk. Lowering the speed limit will decrease that risk a little. In addition, the village is used as a rat run for commuters going between the A41 and Bicester or the A4421 - given the amount of traffic we often get, lowering the speed limit will make it safer for pedestrians. Travel change: No
(71) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – The traffic through the village is now above an acceptable level and is very dangerous considering we have busy Primary school on the main road. The Crossroads is now a game of Russian Rulet if pulling out of Station Road. 20mph signs are not the solution but better than nothing. The village requires the correct level of traffic management (for example speedbumps or chicanes) to deter drivers from taking the shortcut to the Aylesbury Road. Travel change: No
(72) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – Speeding and even driving at 30mph is dangerous through the village with the state of the roads. Especially at school times. The volume of traffic coming through the village also makes the speed people are driving hazardous.

	Travel change: Yes - cycle more
(73) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – Fully support this proposal. Travel change: Other I need to drive but I would respect the reduced 20 mph
(74) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – Volume / Speed of traffic through the village is awful. Also had both our cats killed on Station Road in the past 6 months by speeding drivers who didn't even stop Travel change: No
(75) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – Cars and other vehicles drive very quickly through the village to and from Bicester. There is a dangerous junction in the middle of the village. Crossing the main road can be difficult and dangerous for pedestrians particularly children walking to and from school. Travel change: No
(76) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – So close to a school, the speed limit should be lowered Travel change: No
(77) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – We live on Station Road. The speed the traffic comes past our house is a huge concern. Both of our cats have been killed in the last 6 months outside our house. Something needs to be done urgently Travel change: No

(78) Local Resident, (Launton, sycamore Road)	Support – Launton has become a glorified rat run and shows no signs of improving perhaps this might help? Travel change: No
(79) Local Resident, (Launton, Sycamore Road)	Support – I'm hoping that introducing a 20 mph limit it may make Launton a less attractive cut through and therefore reduced the amount of traffic that use Launton as a rat run. Travel change: No
(80) Local Resident, (Launton, Sycamore Road)	Support – I believe that this will help reduce the unsustainable volume of traffic using Launto as a "rat run" to avoid the A41. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(81) Local Resident, (Launton, Sycamore Road)	Support – To try to make the village a village with low traffic like it was when we moved here 7 years ago! Because of the continued road closures etc the village is a complete rat run from the A41 which is spoiling our village and has made the roads unsafe as people also speed along the Bicester Road and Station Road! Along with the extra pollution when the traffic has ques all the way through from early morning until early evening! Bring on 20mph please Travel change: No
(82) Local Resident, (Launton, Sycamore Road)	Support – On the main road through Launton there are three critical points: the village school, the local village store, and the Launton crossroads. During school start/finish times there are significant vehicle and pedestrian movements. The flashing 20 signs outside the school are operating during the start/finish times but as these are advisory only many vehicles do not slow down. In addition the driveway to the common village hall/school carpark and the Launton sports grounds runs alongside the school and vehicles have restricted views pulling out from the driveway.

The Launton store does not generally have a large pedestrian footfall but cars parking in front of the store and business vehicles parked almost opposite during commuter hours make this a pinch point for two way traffic. Pedestrians therefore tend to cross the road at any point along this stretch of road.

The Launton crossroads has been of concern for some years as vehicles pulling out from Station Road have severe restricted visibility due to the curve round the corner deli shop on the right, vehicles parked within 20 metres on Blackthorn Road to the left, and often vehicles parked opposite the deli shop entrance on Station Road within 10 metres of the junction.

Traffic Flows

Launton is used as a cut through for vehicles travelling from north Bicester to Aylesbury avoiding the A41 and Graven Hill/Rodney House roundabout. During the A41 works at the Ambrosden junction in the last few years traffic flows increased markedly through Launton, but to a degree the volume of traffic tended to constrain vehicle speeds through the village. Without this natural buffer speeds have tended to increase. Since late last year the local Speedwatch Group have monitored traffic and reported a number of vehicles exceeding the speed limit. Their presence does act as a deterrent to speeding drivers but speeds have been observed to be higher when the team is not in attendance. At various times, particularly on weekends, Station Road is reduced to one lane with vehicles parked almost continuously on one side from Yew Tree Close to the crossroads. The impending development of 65 homes at the edge of the village on Station Road is going to significantly impact traffic volumes from here to the Bicester Rd/Blackthorn Rd junction with the consequential increased risk of collision with vehicles travelling at speed through the crossroads. Reducing the village limit to 20mph will help mitigate this risk.

Travel change: **No**

(83) Local Resident, (Launton, The Glades)

Support – For safety reasons. It's a proven fact that anyone hit by a car travelling at 20mph rather than 30mph is considerably more likely to survive and to have less serious injuries. Many drivers do not respect the existing 30mph limit so reducing it further would help. There is a primary school on the main road through the village, children walking g to school from the outskirts would be safer. Visibility at the crossroads where station road joins the main road through the village is restricted. Lowering the speed limit would make accidents less likely. The road is busy. Vehicles travelling more slowly would make it more likely that local people would choose to walk or cycle as they would feel safer. It would be a much more pleasant environment in which to live.

Travel change: Yes - walk/wheel more

(84) Local Resident, (Launton, The Glades)	Support – With the levels of traffic and safety of pedestrians this is a must Travel change: No
(85) Local Resident, (Launton, The Glades)	Support – I'm supporting the proposal, as walking along Bicester road can be dangerous, the current 30mph limit is often ignored, meaning additional danger for children and animals. The pot holes and standing water can see the dirty water splashed across the pavements making it impossible to avoid as a pedestrian, the pot holes and excess speed also increase the risk of losing control of vehicles. It's an accident waiting to happen. The only way 20mph will make a difference, is if it is enforced. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(86) Local Resident, (Launton, The Poplars)	Support – There are idiots that drive through the village at up to 60 mph, we need something done and this is a good start Travel change: No
(87) Local Resident, (Launton, The Spinney)	Support – Overall the logic is good but IN LAUNTON there is much more risk of being knocked down on a pavement, by a cyclist or a person on an e scooter than by anything on the road. Secondly, enforcing the heavy goods vehicle restrictions would dramatically reduce risk on the road Travel change: No
(88) Local Resident, (Launton, The Spinney)	Support – I am supporting this proposal for reasons of safety. Many drivers do not adhere to the 30mph limit and I worry for pedestrians, particularly children, and pets. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more

(89) Local Resident, (Launton, The Timbers)	Support – I walk my two young children to school daily and the speed in which vehicles travel through the village and the amount of traffic concerns me. It won't be long until a child is seriously injured. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(90) Local Resident, (Launton, The Timbers)	Support – I am constantly worried about my children being hit by a car when they are walking, cycling or scooting around Launton. Travel change: No
(91) Local Resident, (Launton, The Timbers)	Support – Dangerous fast driving through the village Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(92) Local Resident, (Launton, The Timbers)	Support – Strongly in favour of this. We walk daily along the main road with our 5 and 2 year old and our dog and cats goes ridiculously fast. Travel change: No
(93) Local Resident, (Launton, West End)	Support – Too many cars are rat running through Launton at high speed. This is especially dangerous at the cross roads, shop, school and church areas. Travel change: No
(94) Local Resident, (Launton, West End)	Support – I would support any measure that makes our roads and pavements a safer place. Our village has become a "rat run" for speeding motorists in recent years, they are a danger to the residents of the whole of our village, not only to pedestrians trying to get across the road, but to cyclists as well. Travel change: Other

	I am now too old to do much walking, but have to use a walker or a mobility scooter, with cars rushing past me.
(95) Local Resident, (Launton, West End)	Support – People speed through the village constantly with no consideration to pedestrians. The amount of traffic that cuts through Launton is ridiculous, hopefully a change in speed limit will deter this Travel change: No
(96) Local Resident, (Launton, West End)	Support – Cars regularly use launton as a rat run to get to the A41 and the crossroads have had loads of near misses due to the speed of drivers passing through Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(97) Local Resident, (Launton, West End)	Support – Too many people speed the the village and use it as a rat run. The crossroads is particularly dangerous especially when turning right out of Station road. At 30mph it is difficult to see an approaching vehicle. At 40mph it is impossible. Hopefully a 20mph would reduce all traffic speeds by 10mph including the speeders Travel change: No
(98) Local Resident, (Launton, West End)	Support – I'm in support of a 20mph speed limit as the road in question is used as a continuous rat-run which has caused numerous near-misses and it's only a matter of time before someone will get seriously hurt. Travel change: Other I do not drive however I would most definitely feel safer as a pedestrian or cyclist.
(99) As a business, (Launton, West End)	Support – Blackthorn Road and Bicester Road are currently used as a Rat Runs. Fair enough if they were to use caution and treat it as a Village Road. Launton is a busy little village and the pavements are used extensively by villagers, many of whom are elderly. My daily walk to the shop is becoming increasingly worrying, something must be done to slow these inpatient drivers down.

	Travel change: No
(100) Local Resident, (Launton, West End)	Support – There seems little we can do to reduce the rat-run traffic in Launton but this may help. Travel change: Yes - cycle more
(101) Local Resident, (Launton, West end)	Support – Will make crossing road safer. Travel change: No
(102) Local Resident, (Launton, West End)	Support – It's long overdue - people drive far too fast through the village. There are so many potholes that when wet, one can get drenched by speeding cars. Not a pleasant pavement to walk along, plus what about all those small children walking to school. Perhaps there also needs to be a pedestrian crossing near the school? Bring on the 20mph limit! Travel change: No
(103) Local Resident, (Launton, West End)	Support – Rat runners need slowing down Travel change: No
(104) Local Resident, (Launton, West end)	Support – Since the roadworks on the A41 last year the village is being used by far more traffic than before and a lot of speeding Travel change: No

(105) Local Resident, (Launton, West end)	Support – Traffic through the village is particularly dangerous during school drop off and pick up. Reducing the speed limit will make if safer for pedestrians and hopefully put people off using the village as a rat run between a41 and north Bicester Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(106) Local Resident, (Launton, West end)	Support – For the safety of the residents people use the area like a rat run Travel change: Yes - cycle more
(107) Local Resident, (Launton, Woodland Close)	Support – Slower speeds make it safer for pedestrians, particularly schoolchildren. However, the limit should be combined with a resolve to tackle dangerous parking in the village. For too long this has been used as an excuse for cheap traffic calming. However, people do not park in safe areas and cause unnecessary disruption and danger to local road users. The parking too near the crossroads by the Bull and butcher is an obvious example of inconsiderate and dangerous parking. Travel change: No
(108) Local Resident, (Launton, Yew Tree Close)	Support – The lower speed limit will make the village much safer. Launton has a busy through road in which a school, shop, public house are based - regularly cars travel trough well in excess of 30mph which creates a hazard. The lower limit should help to lower the overall speed through the village with limited disbenefit to those making journeys. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(109) Local Resident, (Launton, Yew tree close)	Support – There are a large number of vehicles that cut through the village driving very fast. There is also a primary school on the main road therefore 20 seems appropriate given the number of children walking along the road. Travel change: No

(110) Local Resident, (Launton, Yew Tree Close)	Support – People go too fast through the village even when there are children walking to and from school Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(111) Local Resident, (Launton, Yew Tree Close)	Support – I have major concerns for children's safety. Cars often speed through the village and make dangerous decisions when driving. I witness this almost on a daily basis because I work as a Registered Childminder here in Launton and I walk myself instead of driving when I care for the children. My hope is that less traffic will come through the village with a 20mph speed limit restriction. The traffic has increased for a number of reasons in the past two to three years. It has always been a concern for me, now more than ever. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(112) Local Resident, (Launton, Yew Tree Road)	Support – School is very close to the road with narrow pavements. Lots of crossing outside shop for children. The road has become a cut through since the EWR bridge and road closures. Travel change: Yes - cycle more
(113) Local Resident, (Launton, Ancil Avenue)	Support – A long straight road = speeding. When walking on the pavement I am 12 inches from death at 30+. 20 is plenty. Travel change: No
(114) Local Resident, (Launton, Ancil Avenue)	Support – It will hopefully slow down the traffic through the village and may put some people off using the village as a short cut. Travel change: No

(115) Local Resident, (Launton, Beech Road)	Support – Speed of current traffic at times is in excess of 30mph. State of road is very poor with a extraordinary number of deep potholes. As a pedestrian I have been splashed many times by cars speeding through these. I have been sworn at and hooted at by car drivers as I have had to walk in the road by St Mary's church when the pavement is unsafe and unusable due to flooding. It can be difficult to cross the road due to the high number and speed of the through traffic. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(116) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester Road)	Support – We have far too much traffic speeding through the village. The village should be safe for a our children to be able to cross the road, cycle to the park etc. We shouldn't have to put up with people using it as a rat-run. The 20 MPH limit may not stop the use of the village as an "easier route", but the 20 MPH limit would reduce the risk to life considerably, especially if it is enforced. Travel change: No
(117) Member of public, (Launton, Bicester Road)	Support – I travel in and around the village a lot visiting local businesses and my allotments. I have always driven at a self imposed 20 mph in the village for safety reasons. I don't think people will observe a 20 mph limit unless it is enforced in some way. The same applies to the weight limit which I observed being exceeded twenty times a day from my advantage point. Travel change: No
(118) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester Road)	Support – The road noise on the Bicester Road is so loud. Cars also fly down the road all day long at excessive speeds. Travel change: Yes - cycle more
(119) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester Road)	Support – Due to the ever increasing speeding traffic that unnecessarily travel through the village Travel change: No

(120) As a business, (Launton, Bicester road)	Support – The crossroad (West end/Station road) is so dangerous, a roundabout would help slow down the traffic too. Travel change: No
(121) Local Resident, (Launton, Blenheim Drive)	Support – Fed up with people using village as a short cut racing track. Can't get out of drives or cross roads without taking a risk especially at the crossroads you cannot see to get out of road safely without taking a risk. Travel change: Other To be able to drive to doctors or hospitals safely
(122) Local Resident, (Launton, Blenheim Drive)	Support – Safety of residence Travel change: No
(123) Local Resident, (Launton, Blenheim Drive)	Support – People can't do 30mph as it is through the village, hopefully a lower limit will make people think about the speed that they do and slow down Travel change: No
(124) Local Resident, (Launton, Coppice Way)	Support – The village is used as a cut through for Bicester. People speed through the village making it difficult for residents cross the road carefully. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more

(125) Local Resident, (Launton, Lanes End)	Support – Very busy traffics through launton - dangerous for school children and pedestrians in general Travel change: Yes - cycle more
(126) Local Resident, (Launton, Sherwood Close)	Support – The increased number of vehicles speeding through the village has become dangerous from both a physical and environmental point of view. Travel change: No
(127) Local Resident, (Launton, Sherwood Close)	Support – The main road through the village is used as a regular cut through by non village traffic and the speed limit as it stands is regularly exceeded, making the road dangerous for walkers, cyclists and school children. Travel change: No
(128) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – To prevent accidents and allow pedestrians to feel safe Travel change: No
(129) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – I live on Station Road in Launton and have children that I walk to and from the village school. Cars often travel well in excess of the speed limit in the village which causes me great concern for the safety of my children. There is also a narrow point on Station Road where the pavement is very close to the road going past the pond at Clock Court where speeding cars are very close to pedestrians making it feel unsafe to walk children through the village. I am aware of two incidents in the village where cars passing through have crashed into parked vehicles. The village is already used as a cut through to avoid the Bicester ring road, which is particularly bad during school drop off and pick up times with cars and lorries speeding through the village. A reduction in the speed limit would make many people feel more confident to walk or cycle their children to and from school. The road at the end of Station Road as you exit the village is particularly bad with cars speeding up well before they leave the village and speeding into the village, particularly since the road layout has changed further up Station Road

	and the construction of the new large bridge over the railway line. Additional speed calming measures or an extension of the 20 mph speed limit further out of the village would be of a benefit in this location. Travel change: Other Yes, walk and cycle more and allow my children to walk/cycle/scoot more.
(130) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – For the safety of the younger children making their way to and from school The cars race through the village as a cut through and with barrow pavements and bigger lorries on the road this feels like an accident waiting to happen Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(131) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – From a noise and safety point of view a good idea. Turning out of station road will be safer Travel change: Yes - cycle more
(132) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – I frequently witness cars speeding through the village and consider this extremely dangerous Travel change: No
(133) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – Fast and too much traffic is dangerous Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(134) Local Resident, (Launton, Station Road)	Support – A lot more traffic and a lot of speeding through the village Travel change: No

	T
(135) Local Resident, (Launton, Sycamore Road)	Support – Safety to pedestrians crossing the road especially at school drop off times Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(136) Local Resident, (Launton, The Glades)	Support – For our residents and more importantly our children. Drivers speed through our village with no disregard to anyone else. Travel change: No
(137) Local Resident, (Launton, The Glades)	Support – To improve safety for residents and visitors including drivers, cyclists and pedestrians. Increased traffic has made the village roads busier and potentially more dangerous. Travel change: No
(138) Local Resident, (Launton, The Glades)	Support – Too many cars speeding through the village Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(139) Local Resident, (Launton, The Poplars)	Support – The village is now a through route so the volume of traffic has increase dramatically in the last few years. Car drivers appear take little notice of their environs & speed through the village. I would hope that a lower speed limitif there is a means to enforce it may focus their minds to take notice of pedestrians, cyclists, children & animals. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(140) Local Resident, (Launton, The Poplars)	Support – A 20 mph limit IF enforced will improve road and pedestrian safety. The present 30mph limit is however ignored and not enforced. Therefore further traffic management measures beyond the addition of 20mph signage are required to improve safety. Further measures are also required to limit and slow traffic from the A41 using Launton as a method to avoid the ongoing traffic chaos on the A41 from Aylesbury into Bicester

	Travel change: No
(141) Local Resident, (Launton, The Poplars)	Support – Children walking to school, road close to houses, noise, pollution. Cars use the village as a cut through Travel change: No
(142) Local Resident, (Launton, The Spinney)	Support – Too many vehicles speeding through the village Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(143) Local Resident, (Launton, The Spinney)	Support – The road is busy rat run with a school and dangerous crossroads junction. The road can be difficult to cross at times and I have had a couple of near misses with traffic in the past. The road is not especially wide and does not drain quickly. After rain it is a difficult task to not be splashed by speeding cars as a pedestrian. Travel change: No
(144) Local Resident, (Launton, West End)	Support – Some people do drive far too quickly through Lanton Travel change: No
(145) Local Resident, (Launton, West End)	Support – Because it's becoming very dangerous with all the lorrys and fast cars nearly got nocked off my vike Travel change: Yes - cycle more
(146) Local Resident, (Launton, West End)	Support – Heavy traffic, lorries, vans and cars all travelling well above 30ph. Something needs to be done before a serious accident happens. Travel change: Yes - cycle more

(147) Local Resident, (Launton, West End Close)	Support – Safety Travel change: No
(148) Local Resident, (Launton, West End Close)	Support – To cut speeding and hopefully stop the village being used as a rat run Travel change: No
(149) Local Resident, (Launton, West End Close)	Support – Too many cars drive at excessive speeds through the village and it's used as a rat run. I would like to see chicanes added as well. Travel change: No
(150) Local Resident, (Launton, Wetland Drive)	Support – I walk my children to school everyday from Launton Mews and the speed of cars is insane way above 30, I worry alot when walking to school as the cars weave in and out of parked cars obstructing the road, I worry they could accidentally mount the pavement, not to mention how narrow the path is in places, I've even had a car brush me as they pass! Travel change: Other I walk a lot anyway but I would feel a bit safer
(151) Local Resident, (Launton Bicester, Station Road)	Support – As a resident of Launton I often see car speeding thru the village on all roads notably the Bicester rd and Station rd Also I feel sleeping policeman could be used near the school and at the crossways also on the straight section before Jewsons on Station rd. so I am all for it. Travel change: Yes - cycle more

(152) Local Resident, (Launton school, Langford village)	Support – My child is 7 she walks to school and it's busy and the speed limit needs to reflect the safety requirements for children and families arriving safely too and from school. Travel change: No
(153) Local Resident, (Launton, Bicester, The Timbers)	Support – The road through Launton is being used as a rat run from the A41 and has significantly increased the amount of traffic through the village. Travel change: No
(154) Local Resident, (Launotn, Blackthorn Road)	Support – I have lived in LAUNTON for approx. 50 yrs and I have witnessed a dramatic increase in both the volume and the speed of traffic driving 'THROUGH' the village. it has now become unnerving walking along the footpath and the traffic noise is becoming unbearable to the extent that moving home is now a serious consideration. Hopefully further traffic calming measures may also be considered. Travel change: Yes – walk/wheel more
(155) School Parent, (Stratton Audley, Bicester Road)	Support – People cutting through the village drive too fast, even 30 seems fast in an area where there are people walking including children. Travel change: No