



Addresses to Transport Delegated Decisions Meeting November 2024 20mph speed limit proposals esp. Radley

From: Robin Tucker, Co-Chair of the Coalition for Healthy Streets and Active Travel.

We strongly support this Council's locally driven approach to 20mph speed limits. Budget and resource have been allocated, and every elected town or parish council, with their county councillor, has been able to come forward with a proposal for a scheme. We understand that the county is now approaching 300 applications and is well over 200 schemes approved.

The evidence for 20mph schemes making roads safer is very strong. There is academic evidence from a combining 70 studies of 40 cities, which shows that the lower speed limits reduces collisions and serious casualties by 25 to 30%, and also improve emissions, noise, fuel consumption and traffic congestion. The latter might be surprising to those who confuse speed with flow, but it is achieving smoother traffic flow rather than stop-start that does it. Early results from Oxfordshire are also encouraging.

On the schemes proposed today, they generally map on to the inhabited parts of the villages very well, and we support them.

However, we are concerned about **Radley**, which is proposed as a minimal scheme only affecting most minor streets. We consider that the boundaries of this consultation were set too narrow, these omissions are inconsistent with the outcomes in other villages, and would leave people in and passing through Radley exposed to higher levels of road danger.

We believe that the consultation should also have considered:

(a) the loop around the village, Foxborough Road and Church Road, which is vital for accessing the primary school, for Abingdon residents cycling the 2 miles to the station. This is part of NCN5, and no infrastructure improvements are currently proposed so it needs to be 20mph to meet safety standards.

(b) The stretch of Whites Lane that includes residential frontages, the sport centre, Radley College and will have two parallel crossings for the new cycle track being funded by Pye Homes. The 20mph here is to protect people using those crossings, the sports centre and college, and residents.

Now that the safety of 20mph schemes is proven, we suggest this is reconsidered and reconulted with these streets included before the scheme is implemented.