

# DELEGATED DECISIONS BY CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT

26 FEBRUARY 2026

## UPPER MILTON – PROPOSED EXTENSION OF EXISTING 20MPH SPEED LIMIT

Report by Director of Environment and Highways

### RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet Member is RECOMMENDED to:

- a) Approve the extension of the existing 20mph speed limit at Upper Milton, as advertised.

### Executive Summary

1. This report presents responses received to proposals to extend the existing 20mph speed limit at Upper Milton southwards by approximately 460 metres, to a point just north of the crossroads junction with the minor road between Fifield and the A361, replacing the existing 60mph National speed limit in the process – as shown in **Annex 1**.

### Corporate Policies and Priorities

2. The proposals form part of the County Councils 20mph transformation programme, as approved at Cabinet.
3. Of the three priorities identified within the newly adopted 'Oxfordshire Strategic Plan 2025-2028' which are listed below, these proposals actively support priority nos.1 & 3:

(1) Greener Oxfordshire – *“We want our communities to enjoy clean air, access to green space, and safe and sustainable ways to move around. This means reducing traffic congestion and investing in public transport, cycling and walking; protecting our natural environment; and helping Oxfordshire respond and adapt to a changing climate.”*

(2) Fairer Oxfordshire – *“We want all our residents to benefit from the advantages our county has to offer. This means supporting a local economy that benefits everyone; assisting people who face challenges in finding work; making our services as easy to access as possible; and helping communities in need.”*

- (3) Healthier Oxfordshire – *“We want all our residents to be happy, healthy and safe. This means helping children get the best start in life; creating opportunities for young people to reach their full potential; supporting older people to age well and stay independent for as long as possible; and encouraging everyone to make healthy choices.”*

## **Financial Implications**

4. Funding for consultation on the proposals (and implementation if approved) has been provided by the County Council’s 20mph Speed Limit Project.

*Comments checked by:*

*Matt Kocak – Finance Business Partnering Manager*

[Matthew.Kocak@Oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Matthew.Kocak@Oxfordshire.gov.uk)

## **Legal Implications**

5. The consultation that has been undertaken complies with the consultation requirements for the various elements as required by law including under the Highways Act 1980, the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and any other relevant legislation.
6. The scheme has been promoted by Oxfordshire County Council as the Highway Authority and Traffic Authority under the Highways Act 1980, and the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

*Comments checked by:*

*Nicole Olavesen – Solicitor (Regulatory)*

[Nicole.Olavesen@Oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Nicole.Olavesen@Oxfordshire.gov.uk)

## **Staff Implications**

8. There are no negative staff implications, with the appraisal of the proposals, as well as the consultation process having been undertaken by Officers from the ‘Vision Zero’ and ‘TRO & Schemes’ teams as part of their regular day-to-day duties, with no additional/negative impact on capacity expected.

## **Equality & Inclusion Implications**

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

## **Sustainability Implications**

8. The proposals would help encourage 'active travel' choices such as walking and cycling within Upper Milton by making them safer and more attractive.

## **Risk Management**

9. No potential significant health and safety or service provision risks, or potentially significant financial impacts have been identified in these proposals.

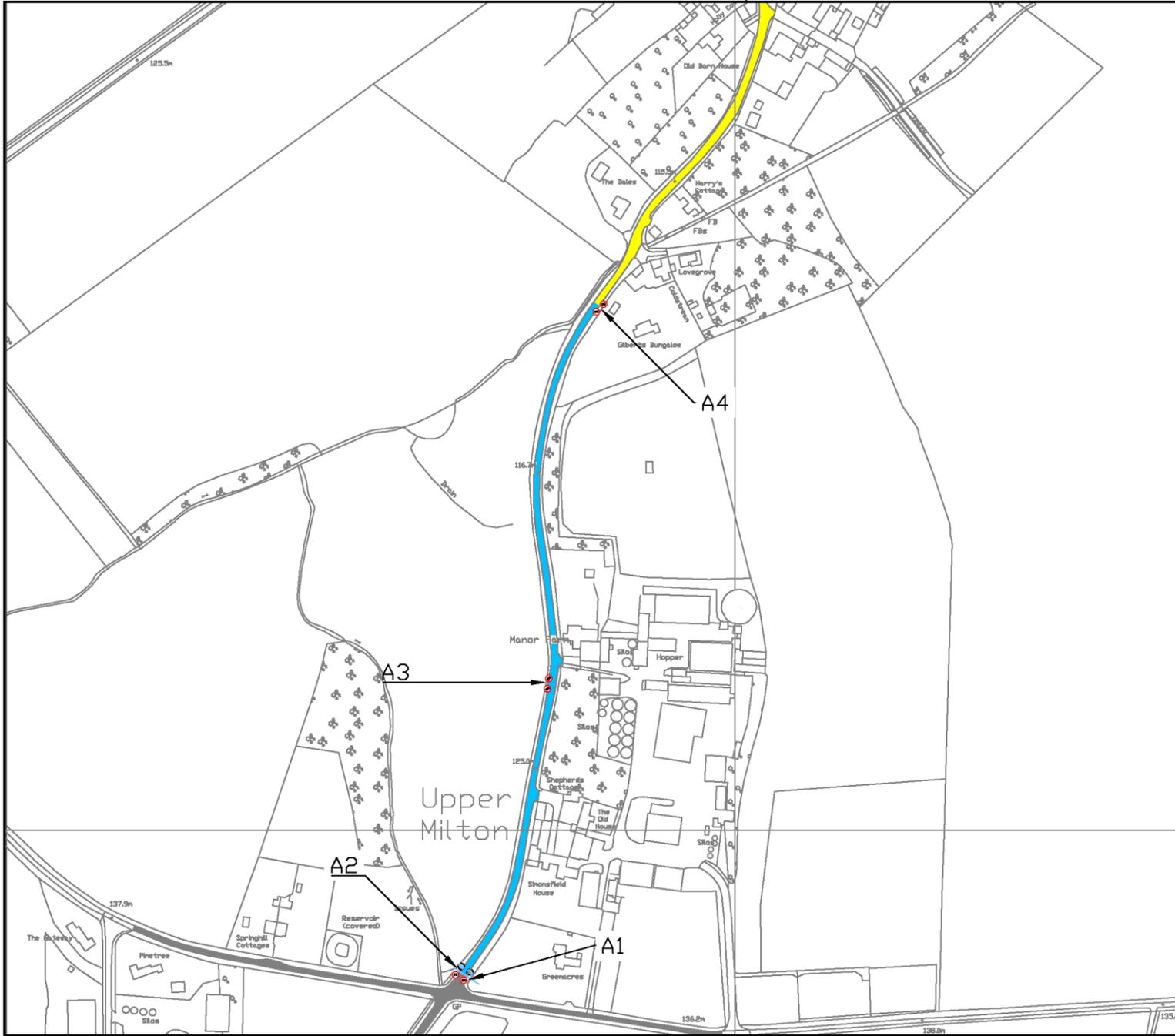
## **Formal Consultation**

10. Formal consultation was carried out between 12 November and 12 December 2025. A notice was published in the Witney & West Oxfordshire Gazette newspaper, and an email was 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, West Oxfordshire District Council, relevant local District Cllrs, Milton-under-Wychwood Parish Council, and the local County Councillor representing the Charlbury & Wychwood division.
11. During the course of the formal consultation, three responses were received via the online survey, comprising of one objection and two in support.
12. Additionally, Thames Valley Police submitted a non-objection, albeit raising concerns regarding levels of compliance due to the road having very little adjacent development, and also asking on the reasons the proposed extension was not included in the proposals as previously consulted on and approved, and why the current proposals did not include the crossroads itself and the short lengths of the side roads where there is also residential adjacent development.
13. The full responses are shown in **Annex 2**, and copies of the original responses are available for inspection by County Councillors. Any comments received that Officers identify as containing personal abuse and/or other personal information will be redacted as appropriate.

## **Officer response to objections/concerns**

14. Thames Valley Police's query on the scope of the current proposal is noted; it appears that it includes the original intention of Milton under Wychwood Parish Council for the 20mph limit but was inadvertently omitted from the consultation carried out in late 2022/early 2023.





Drawing No. Revision

Legend	
Proposed 20	
Existing 20	
Existing NSL	
Not Public Highway	

© Crown Copyright and Database rights 1002343 2017

Rev.	Date	Purpose of revision	Drawn	Checked	Approved



**OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
 Bill Cotton  
 Director of Communities Operations  
 Oxfordshire County Council  
 County Hall  
 New Road  
 Oxford  
 OX1 1HD  
 Tel: 0845 310 1111

Project title  
**Milton-under-Wychwood 20mph Extension**

Drawing title  
**Sheet A**

Drawing Status			
Scale @ A3	Drawn by CW	Checked by AK	Approved by AK
	Date drawn 23/09/25	Date checked	Date approved

Oxfordshire Project No. & File Ref

Drawing No. Revision

## ANNEX 2

RESPONDENT	COMMENTS
(e1) Traffic Management Officer, (Thames Valley Police)	<p><b>No objection</b> – I have to ask why was this part of Upper Milton not included during the first consultation . Someone clearly decided not to consider any speed limit here and I wish to explore why.</p> <p>In principle I am not objecting but I am going to have concerns with compliance as this road has very little development.</p> <p>At the same time I could ask why the road from the crossroads to Fifield has not been considered for a speed limit . This road has a village name plate and isolated residential properties.</p>
(o1) County Cllr, (Bartlemas division )	<p><b>Support</b> – Road safety, vision zero.</p>
(o2) Member of public, (Uffington, Green Lane)	<p><b>Object</b> – The justification given in the documentation is the generic policy for Oxfordshire. The documentation does not make it clear why a 20mph restriction is the right thing to do in this location. Apparently the Parish Council have raised concerns but these are not explained in detail. What is clear is that there have only been two recorded accidents in the location in the last c20 years (as shown in the DfT Think Map data). In both of these accidents frost/ice was an issue. The data would suggest this is a more significant issue to resolve if reducing accidents is the justification for the proposal.</p> <p>I have been concerned for some while that casual implementation of 20mph restrictions across the county is not the right approach. It distracts from more significant issues and is gradually creating a culture where speed restrictions are seen as excessive and therefore increasingly ignored.</p> <p>We should be much more focussed and targeted in our implementation of safety measures. This proposal is another example where that is not the case.</p>

(o3) Local group/organisation, (Oxfordshire Cycling Network)

**Support** – The lower speed limit will make people safer in this part of the village, whether they are walking, cycling, motorcycling or in a motor vehicle. Speed reduction is a vital part of the Vision Zero commitment and objective of the County's LTCP.

The evidence for this is very strong, including a review of 70 studies of 40 cities across Europe.  
<https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/16/11/4382>