

Full Council

Report Title: 20mph Consultation

Meeting Date: 14 November 2023

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide background on 20mph in Thame. Sections 4-10 of this report are taken from OCC's press release, circulated to all Councillors on 26 October 2023.

Action Required

2. To agree a response to the consultation.

Background

3. At Thame Town Council's meeting on 26 April 2022, numerous requests for 20mph speed limits in Thame and Moreton were considered. Residents from Lea Park spoke in support of 20mph in Thame following several years of campaigning for it on their estate. Despite some concerns regarding enforcement and effectiveness, TTC voted unanimously to support 20mph in Thame (within the ring road and including the Taylor Wimpey/Bellway estates) and Moreton. A recommendation was made to OCC who have reviewed and are now progressing a formal consultation on proposals for 20mph in Thame.
4. Oxfordshire County Council wants to make our built environments safer and more attractive places to walk and cycle. To enable this, 20mph speed restrictions are being used to help promote alternative modes of transport for local travel. Further details on how the council is considering making 20mph the new 30mph for Oxfordshire communities can be found [here](#).
5. OCC are therefore asking for your views on the proposal to introduce a 20mph speed within Thame, replacing the majority of the 30mph speed limit in the process.
6. Various lengths of 30mph speed limit will be retained within the town - including on the main town approaches of: Aylesbury Road, Chinnor Road/Garden City, Kingsey Road, Oxford Road & Thame Park Road - with OCC Officers having taken the current road environment & traffic usage into account.
7. Additionally, the existing 40mph & 50mph speed limits will remain unaffected by these proposals.
8. The proposals are being put forward following road safety concerns raised by the town, and form part of a countywide programme of works that seeks to deliver '*a safer place with a safer pace*' for the residents of Oxfordshire. In light of this, please find the following consultation documents attached:

- Public Notice,
 - Statement of Reasons,
 - Consultation Plan(s), and
 - Draft Traffic Regulation Order(s).
9. The proposed Traffic Regulation Order is scheduled to be advertised in the Oxford Times newspaper today; Thursday 26th October 2023, and details are also available to view on the Councils consultation portal at the address below:

https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/thame_20mph2023

10. As stated on the notice, any objections or other representations on the proposal should be submitted by **Friday 17th November 2023**.

Recommendation

It is recommended...

- i) To agree a response to the consultation.**