

19 June 2023

**Consultation – East Oxford LTNs (Oxford) proposed Traffic Restriction amendments & ANPR Enforcement**

Dear Oxfordshire County Council,

Thank you for consulting Oxford Brookes University on the proposed changes to the east Oxford low traffic neighbourhoods (LTNs). We understand you are seeking feedback on the impact of the LTNs since new bollards were introduced in March and the proposal to introduced ANPR enforcement:

From the consultation documentation we understand the removal of the bollards in favour of ANPR technology is based on feedback from the emergency services. We support the recommendations of the emergency services if they believe this change will help safeguard the community and save lives. If the proposals are implemented we ask the council to notify the University, liaising directly with our transport team ([transport@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:transport@brookes.ac.uk)), so we can notify staff and students accordingly of the changes.

Turning to the implementation of the LTNs in their entirety. As we have previously expressed, we support strategies and policies to help the greening of Oxford to improve the environment for the community and are proud to aspire to deliver net-zero by 2040.

Nonetheless, we have concerns that the LTNs have resulted in slower bus journeys and increased traffic congestion within Oxford. This has in turn, made it dangerous for sustainable forms of transport (e.g. cyclists, e-scooters, walkers). We ask the council to conduct an independent analysis of the benefits and limitations of the LTNs to ensure they are having the desired effect. If this work is conducted we ask that the report and its findings are shared with the University.

Oxford is a City enjoyed by the local, national and international community. We have concerns that the current traffic congestion is resulting in the city becoming less desirable for people to visit, live and work. Recently, we have experienced many prospective and current colleagues notifying us of the challenges they have faced traveling to campus due to the traffic levels in Oxford. Prospective colleagues have even decided not to work at the University due to the length of time it has taken to travel to the campus, including those travelling by public transport. We ask the Council to urgently implement measures/incentives to support people to travel in a sustainable manner in Oxford. The University would particularly welcome an overhaul of the Park and Rides network to make it easier and more financially desirable for people to use.

In summary, it is essential not only for the Council to have policies to act as the “*stick*” (i.e. barrier to bringing cars into Oxford) but also “*carrots*” (i.e. incentives to not bring cars into Oxford) to make alternative modes of transport attractive.

We look forward to continuing to work with the Council over the coming months and years to improve the sustainable transport offering in Oxford to make the city an attractive place to live, work and visit.

Kind regards,

[Redacted]