To: media covering Oxfordshire

From: Hazel and Steve Dawe, COWLEY AREA TRANSPORT GROUP(1)

53 Bulan Road Oxford OX3 7HU

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**HOLES IN THE FUTURE COUNTY TRANSPORT PLAN**

Oxfordshire residents are being consulted about the future Oxfordshire Transport Plan, with a deadline of 17th May. Full details: Local Transport and Connectivity Plan: <https://consultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consult.ti/ltcp.engagement/consultationHome>

Hazel and Steve Dawe, from the Cowley Area Transport Group, have put in a comprehensive response to this consultation and urge others to do so(2). They note:

“We regret to write that this initial consultation on the future Oxfordshire Transport PLan has at least 15 major omissions and badly needs significant public engagement for improvements.”

Steve says:

“The Transport Plan needs an early date for carbon free surface transport: about 45% of Oxfordshire’s emissions come from surface transport. We suggest no later than 2030. But if Oxfordshire-relevant aviation, shipping and imports are added to Oxfordshire’s total emissions, then total transport emissions could well be twice as much and need even more cuts.”

Hazel says:

“We need cuts in road traffic: the total volume of vehicles and journeys continues to increase. Every Oxfordshire council should be encouraging vehicle hire rather than ownership. No one will want to go back to the appalling rush hour traffic in this County after the current crisis. Bus services in rural areas which have been cut should be reintroduced.”

Hazel and Steve say:

“We must open disused rail lines, with full electrification, to give people more choice of transport modes on more routes. The existing road structure cannot cope with traffic increases and the environmental impact of building new trunk roads, such as the Cambridge-Oxford Expressway, cannot be contemplated. We invite everyone who cares to take action now.”

Ends

**FURTHER INFORMATION:** Hazel and Steve Dawe – 07747 036192.

Notes:

1. The Cowley Area Transport Group is an informal network of people interested in sustainable transport in East Oxford. It is responsible for the *Cowley Area Transport Strategy,* 3rd edition due later this summer, and *Electronic Road Pricing for Oxford:* available at: <https://bit.ly/2VdV3Ez>
2. A copy of the submission may be requested from stevedawe@gn.apc.org CATG has made submissions to other consultations concerning Oxford & Oxfordshire.