To: letters@oxfordmail.co.uk

From: Hazel and Steve Dawe, COWLEY AREA TRANSPORT GROUP – [www.catg.org.uk](http://www.catg.org.uk)

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Dear Editor,

Your correspondents Judith Harley and Chris Coles offer both misconceptions and inaccuracies about current traffic conditions in Oxford (letters, *Oxford Mail,* 14th May).

First, the main cause of the current high traffic levels is very low levels of bus use not Low Traffic Neighbourhoods. Traffic levels will not return to pre-lockdown levels until people go back on to our buses and use them as they did before the Coronavirus. Secondly, a series of road works and road traffic accidents has not helped with traffic flows either. Thirdly, many very short car journeys can be made on foot and by bicycle. After all, a third of households in Oxford do not even have access to a car.

Yes, far more people can work at home than was the case before the Coronavirus and employers should facilitate this as a contribution to keeping traffic and air pollution down. No, Between Towns Road, Iffley Road and Hollow Way do all have cycle tracks. Yes, Oxford is 2nd only to Cambridge for cycling in England, so many people can and do cycle. No, Newman Road did have heavy traffic in rush hour and school run before LTNs were introduced so problems in that area and vicinity are about car-dependency rather than LTNs.

We can order more goods online, including from local independent businesses, as part of reducing Oxford’s traffic and air pollution. And our councils can move towards a Low Traffic Oxford with comprehensive consultation of the whole City to help make it a better place in which to live, walk, cycle and shop than it is at present.

Yours sincerely,

Hazel and Steve Dawe, COWLEY AREA TRANSPORT GROUP – [www.catg.org.uk](http://www.catg.org.uk)