To: letters at Oxford Times

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

1st August 2022

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Dear Editor,

Good news, it seems total car journeys in LTN areas and on boundary roads show a net reduction of about 2000 car journeys so far (1). The modest increase in traffic on boundary roads (2.3%) is offset by a 47% decrease inside LTNs. This is a massive gain for pedestrians, cyclists and all those who want their bus journeys to be quicker.

Relieving traffic domination is not just about residential areas. The economy of the City Centre is suffering from too much traffic. Empty shops are not just about the cost of living crisis. They are also about how the City Centre is vehicle-dominated and less attractive to users than it could be. An extensive pedestrianised area – including Queen Street, most of St.Giles, George Street if the Bus and Coach station were moved to the Becket Street car park and more from City Centre to rail station – would be far better for all users on foot and bike. What is today a High Traffic Neighbourhood is bad for jobs, and discouraging for residents and visitors.

We should also note that the total number of existing historic traffic filters over a large area of Oxford appears to be greater in number already than those added in the new LTNs (2). This makes some reactions to new LTNs exaggerated compared to the reality, given that so many traffic filters have already existed for years without apparent negative impact upon the emergency services, taxis or bus services. If there were objections, we are sure they would have been evident long before new LTNs were suggested.

Yours sincerely,

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

Notes:

1. Danielle Ballantine-Drake, Clive Siviour and Richard Stamper obtained this material from locally collected statistics. Details of their findings and official sources used can be seen at: <https://nextdoor.co.uk/p/xLRr79x3spMc/c/17592246440292?utm_source=share>
2. Research done by Councillor Emily Kerr.