

Cllr Ian Hudspeth  
Leader of the Council  
Oxfordshire County Council  
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**Councillor Emily Smith**  
Leader of the Council

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Dear Cllr Hudspeth,

I am writing on behalf of the Cabinet of Vale of White Horse District Council to express our support for the development of active travel and traffic restriction measures across Oxfordshire. The national lockdown has had a dramatic impact upon transport emissions and we strongly believe that the opportunity now exists to make radical changes that ensure a continued reduction over the long-term.

The Cabinet, therefore, welcomes the funding made available for the promotion of active travel and traffic restriction measures as part of the response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Not only will these help to reduce emissions, but also promote healthier lifestyles to residents. We would also argue that where these measures are successful, they should – where possible – be made permanent. Within Vale of White Horse, we would be happy to engage with Oxfordshire County Council in identifying opportunities and schemes for our district as part of our long-standing commitment to promoting cycling and active travel and look forward to doing so.

We particularly welcome the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs) and understand work will be starting on an LCWIP for Abingdon shortly. Having these plans in place, linking developments to towns and employment sites are essential for ensuring that residents are able to use active travel in their daily lives but these must be done as quickly as possible to inform development at the many strategic housing sites across the Vale and beyond.

Every council within Oxfordshire has committed itself to addressing the climate emergency. We, therefore, need to use this opportunity to show decisive leadership and ensure a recovery which promotes greener, safer and healthier communities – an ambition that I am sure that the County Council shares.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Councillor Emily Smith  
Leader of the Council