



Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council

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Report to	Planning Committee
Meeting date	1 st September 2025
Report author	
Agenda item	8d
Report subject	Response from SESRO regarding traffic surveys in Abingdon

CONSULTATION

Abingdon-on-Thames Town Council contacted the company conducting SESRO's traffic survey following Oxfordshire County Council's Traffic Monitoring Team [response](#) to our Planning Committee's enquiry about recent traffic survey about equipment on approach roads to the town. See below for the response received.

1. Reasons for surveys

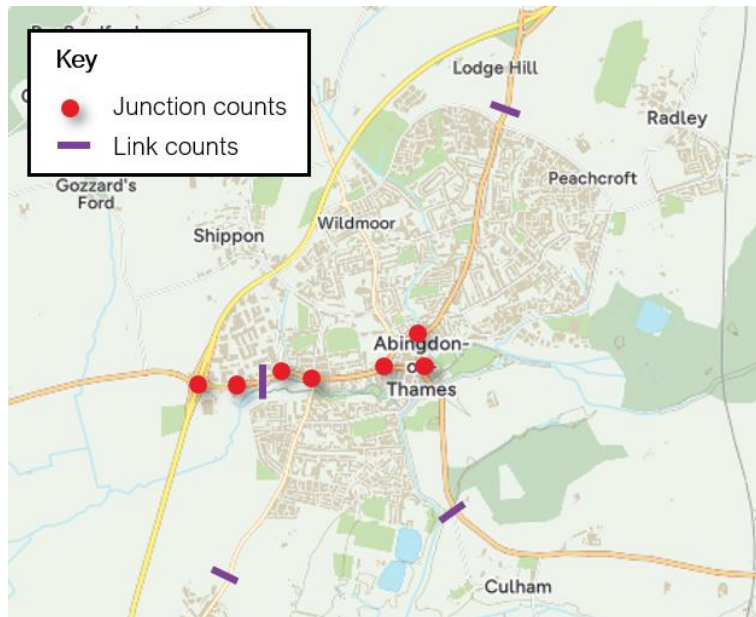
The surveys are being undertaken to support the design development and assessment work for SESRO. Traffic surveys have taken place in 2024 and 2025.

The 2024 traffic surveys have been used to support the assessments in the suite of reports to be submitted for the Development Consent Order (DCO) statutory consultation for the SESRO project, including the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). The statutory consultation will take place later in the Autumn.

The 2025 ATC surveys are part of around 100 ATCs commissioned to support the calibration and validation process of a much larger strategic highway assignment model for the region to inform the SESRO DCO application. The junction counts will be used to understand trends and will also inform more detailed junction modelling which will draw on the strategic highway model.

2. Which roads were surveys

The 2024 surveys took place in the locations below, taking place in November and December.



The 2025 surveys took place in the locations below. These took place in July.



3. Timing of surveys

The approach to survey dates is in keeping with Department for Transport's guidance on modelling, which requires surveys to be typically carried out during a 'neutral', or representative, period. The guidance recognises there can be instances where the purpose of the model necessitates demand to be representative of a particular period that is different from a 'neutral' period, for example, school holidays. It states that the period for the surveys should be selected with careful consideration of the purpose of the transport model, ensuring that the conditions being surveyed are representative of the transport condition being modelled. The dates of the surveys cover both neutral and holiday periods to understand the base flows which could occur during the construction and operation phases of the SESRO project. It is worth noting that during the operation of the SESRO project, the peak visitor demand is forecast to be during the summer holiday period and at weekends, and the range of survey dates and data help us to understand trends in traffic flows.