

Strategic Planning & the Economy

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DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH OXFORDSHIRE

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Our Ref: Vale of White Horse

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Dear Mr Duffield

Vale of White Horse District Council - Local Plan 2031 Part 2: Detailed Policies and Additional Sites (October 2017)

Thank you for inviting Cherwell District Council to respond to your consultation on the above documents.

Officers have of course been aware of Vale's progress in developing its Local Plan at the recent Duty to Co-operate meeting on 27th September 2017. We note that the Local Plan 2031 Part 2: Additional Sites and Detailed Policies sets out additional development site allocations to address the agreed quantum of Oxford's unmet housing need within the Vale and builds on the Local Plan Part 1 Spatial Strategy. The Strategy rightly recognises the need for Vale to work in partnership with other authorities in delivering Oxford's unmet needs. The allocation within the Vale to the Abingdon-on-Thames and Oxford Fringe Sub-Area to meet Oxford's unmet need is supported.

Officers support Vale's approach to help address Oxford City's unmet need. We note that the LPP2 adds the apportionment figure of 2,200 to the 20,560 of LPP1 housing requirement (2011-2031), which makes the total LPP2 housing requirement of 22,760 to 2031. We also note that as well as providing for the housing requirement of 22,760 new dwellings, the LPP2 allocates an additional 1,400 homes within the South East Vale Sub-area to support economic growth.

Core Policy 8a of the LPP2 notes the agreed quantum of Oxford's unmet housing need to be addressed within the Vale of the White Horse (2,200) will be provided for within the Abingdon-on-Thames and Oxford Fringe Sub-Area through either strategic or additional sites. Within this sub-area, LPP2 Core Policy 8a allocates 2,020 new dwellings to 2031 leaving some 180 new dwellings to be delivered through strategic sites in the Abingdon-on-Thames and Oxford Fringe Sub-Area. Cherwell District Council does not have an objection to this approach but would welcome some

more detail in the Housing Trajectory to show the monitoring of the full Oxford's unmet housing needs apportionment to the Vale of the White Horse.

It is also noted that additional land safeguarding to support the delivery of strategic highway scheme within the Abingdon-on-Thames and Oxford Fringe Sub-Area under Core Policy 12a, and updating the Green Belt boundary following the site allocations to address the agreed quantum of unmet housing need for Oxford is supported.

Thank you for consulting Cherwell District Council on the Local Plan and please contact us if you want to discuss further. In due course we would wish to attend the Examination to speak positively in favour of it.

Yours faithfully

Adrian Colwell

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