
From: ADLUNG, Sonke
Sent: 20 November 2017 16:16
To: Planning Policy Vale
Cc: spade.sunningwell@btinternet.com
Subject: Objection to LPP2

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to express my objection to the Vale Local Plan Part 2. The plan is unsound, and it fails to properly address the lack of supporting infrastructure (which is already evident today, without any additional houses). I endorse the reservations expressed by the SPADE and Sunningwell Parish Council (objections to Core Policies 8a/b, 12a and 13a), and I should also like to make the following additional comment.

For many years, Oxfordshire, and in particular the immediate surroundings of Oxford and Abingdon, have been suffering from too much road traffic. There simply are too many cars, which the existing network of roads can't take. To give a few examples, Botley Road, Abingdon Road, Woodstock Road etc within Oxford, the city centre of Abingdon, the A415 to Europa School and Culham Science Centre - are all congested on a daily basis (with delays easily adding 30 minutes to a 5 mile journey). Abingdon in particular lacks a modern system of bypasses. Main traffic in various directions is still channelled through the old town centre.

At the same time, there are not enough cycling paths. Using the Wootton Road between Abingdon and Oxford is a very dangerous undertaking for cyclists. Further South, the A415 has a cycling path, but it is not safe (certainly not for school children). There is a very strong need to improve on this, already now, without any new houses.

Returning to the proposals currently under consideration, let me point out that no matter how many improvements there'll be done to the current bus system, P&R etc, the fact remains that each additional 1,000 houses will come with at least another 1,000 cars (quite possibly more, in particular if located in the outskirts). Even if the planners are successful in convincing the new residents to use P&R to work (good luck!), it remains a fact that there will be these additional cars, and they will be used. The new residents will do what everybody else is doing, using their cars for shopping, drop-offs of children, visits, excursions etc. We will simply see another 1,000 cars on the road, on a daily basis. (As an aside, a typical afternoon traffic jam e.g. on the A415 into Abingdon, or on the Botley Road in or out of Oxford, is about 200 cars long.)

Oxford, Abingdon and the surrounding areas simply can't take this. It is of paramount importance that a serious, wide-reaching improvement of road infrastructure is given our foremost attention, *before* any new houses are built.

I would be happy to hear from you.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Sonke Adlung

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