

Chilton Parish Council

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Chilton Parish Council Statement for Part 1 Examination

Matter 1 – Duty to Co-operate and other Legal Requirements

1.1 Has the Council satisfactorily discharged its Duty to Co-operate to maximise the effectiveness of Local Plan preparation in the context of strategic cross boundary matters,

The Council has failed in its duty to cooperate with SODC to properly assess sites around Didcot that could utilise brownfield sites and meet demand from employment growth. This is omission is inexplicable when these areas lie within the Science Vale Area Action Plan (SVAAP) jointly developed by both councils and when the SVAAP is a core driver and influence upon for the Vale's Local Plan .

1.2 Are the likely environmental, social and economic effects of the plan adequately and accurately addressed in the Habitats Regulations Assessment and the Sustainability Appraisal (SA)? Does the SA test the plan against all reasonable alternatives in terms of the overall requirement for land for housing and employment?

No, because the Plan fails in its statutory duty under the CRoW Act 2000 to protect the North Wessex Downs AONB. The existence of the AONB is recognised but the inclusion of sites 9 and 17 totalling 1400 houses on open downland is not adequately justified.

Liz Morris
Clerk to the Parish Council