

VALE OF WHITE HORSE DISTRICT COUNCIL
LOCAL PLAN PART 1 EXAMINATION HEARING

INSPECTOR'S REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION FROM THE COUNCIL

INSPECTOR'S REQUEST:

Provide a response to the representation from BrookStreet des Roches sent on behalf of Mrs Anthea Eno setting out concerns regarding Core Policy 12, and specifically the safeguarding of land for the Abingdon Southern Bypass.

COUNCIL'S RESPONSE:

The Council notes the following points regarding this safeguarding policy:

a. Development of safeguarding policy for this scheme

The district have worked closely with the County Council in development of Local Plan Part 1 (LPP1) policies, including on safeguarding land for future transport schemes. Proposed Core Policy 12 in which safeguarding of land for a South Abingdon By-pass is included is consistent with the Local Transport Plan 4, specifically policy SV 4.2 in the Science Vale Transport Chapter.¹

In response to further representations by the County to the Vale LPP1 Examination Part 2, the District and County have agreed proposed changes to the safeguarding map for the scheme set out in Appendix E of the plan. Details of this proposed change is given in the District/ County Statement of Common Ground Stage 2 Addendum (examination reference: PHD12a), and included in the proposed 'Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 Part 1: Consolidated Schedule of Suggestions for Modification to the Submission Plan.'

b. Status of the scheme

Safeguarding of land for the Abingdon By-pass is included in Core Policy 12 to ensure that any proposed development does not prejudice future delivery of this scheme. The evidence base work undertaken for the plan did not indicate that the scheme was required to support development proposed in LPP1 to 2031. The scheme is therefore not included in the current Infrastructure Delivery Plan, and there is currently no identified funding. However, this scheme may be needed to support development in this area in the future, which is why it is considered important to ensure that land remains available to support delivery of this scheme at this time.

ⁱ Connecting Oxfordshire 2015- 2031-Local Transport Plan 4, Volume 2 part ii: Science Vale Area Strategy, p.14, September 2015