

From: Linda Hill [REDACTED]
To: Planning Policy Vale <planning.policy@whitehorsedc.gov.uk>
Date: 19/12/2014 14:25
Subject: Publication Stage Representation Form

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are writing to express our unhappiness with the proposed removal of green belt status from the area around Cumnor. We have tried to use your publication Stage Representation Form but have found it to be a dreadful experience and one wonders whether it has been designed specifically to dissuade members of the public from voicing their concerns about the local plan.

We do not believe that the plan is positively prepared, effective and justified: Our reasons for this are as follows:

Firstly, we would draw your attention to the press release dated 4th October 2014 from the Department for Communities and Local Government. This states that green belt boundaries should only be altered under exceptional circumstances. We do not believe that the plan provides such circumstances.

Secondly, we would suggest that the Cumnor and Botley areas are not appropriate areas for increased housing. Botley road, a major route into Oxford from this direction, already suffers serious congestion at peak times, floods frequently, and is not susceptible to significant improvement due to the proximity of housing along much of its length.

Thirdly, Oxfordshire's Strategic Housing Market Assessment exceeds by a considerable margin the government's own figures. It is not clear how these figures have been derived.

Fourthly, we do not feel that the consultation process has given due consideration to the concerns of residents of the Vale. The poorly designed website is just one example of the low priority residents views seem to be accorded.

We think it is important that you understand the strength of community feeling concerning this proposal and we urge you to reconsider.

Yours sincerely,

Peter and Linda Hill