

Comment

Consultee	Mrs Vivienne Illingworth (868096)
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Event Name	Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 Part One - Publication
Comment by	Mrs Vivienne Illingworth
Comment ID	LPPub748
Response Date	17/12/14 20:30
Consultation Point	Core Policy 8: Spatial Strategy for Abingdon-on-Thames and Oxford Fringe Sub-Area (View)
Status	Submitted
Submission Type	Web
Version	0.2
Q1 Do you consider the Local Plan is Legally Compliant?	Yes
Q2 Do you consider the Local Plan is Sound (positively prepared, effective and Justified)	No
If your comment(s) relate to a specific site within a core policy please select this from the drop down list.	North of Abingdon-on-Thames

Q4 Please give details of why you consider the Local Plan is not legally compliant or is unsound or fails to comply with the duty to co-operate. Please be as precise as possible. If you wish to support the legal compliance or soundness of the Local Plan or its compliance with the duty to co-operate, please also use this box to set out your comments.

The Green Belt Review said that the land in North Abingdon east of Oxford Road DOES meet the purposes of the Green Belt and thus this land was excluded from the draft of the plan that went out for consultation. This land was added to the plan after the initial consultation. A landscape evaluation was done using a standard method, but as The Macaulay Land Use Research Institute (2011, now the James Hutton Institute) says "although experts are invaluable when used appropriately, they are a dubious source of 'objective' judgements about what people care about in the landscape". Local residents very much value this landscape, and as the Green Belt Review said, it does form a useful function in separating Abingdon from Radley.

I do not agree with the Green Belt Review that the rest of the land in N. Abingdon should be built on. It is attractive land which is Green Belt for Abingdon (not only Oxford). It also serves to separate the residential areas from the A34. Nobody should be subjected to living on land which adjoins such a noisy, busy road.

Q5 Please set out what modification(s) you consider necessary to make the Local Plan legally compliant or sound, having regard to the test you have identified above where this relates to soundness. (NB Please note that any non-compliance with the duty to co-operate is incapable of modification at examination). You will need to say why this modification will make the Local Plan legally compliant or sound. It will be helpful if you are able to put forward your suggested revised wording of any policy or text. Please be as precise as possible.

The Green Belt Review should be respected with regard to the land east of Oxford Road, but the Green belt Review did not correctly assess other land.