

Comment

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Event Name	Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 Part One - Publication
Comment by	Dr Christopher Prior
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Response Date	18/12/14 12:09
Consultation Point	Core Policy 11: Botley Central 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 West of Abingdon-on-Thames

If you think your comment relates to the DtC, this is about how we have worked with the Duty to Cooperate bodies (such as neighbouring planning authorities)

Q3 Do you consider the Local Plan complies with the Duty to Co-operate? No

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 underlying assumption of large-scale facilities that will attract people to the area is given too high a priority. The main purpose of upgrading the Botley shopping area should be to cater for local needs. The road infrastructure cannot handle greater demand, and it is not true that residents travel to Oxford

for food shopping. Most provisions are available in the existing supermarkets, otherwise travel is to Witney and Abingdon. The mix of shops is good, though there could be some obvious improvements, mostly upgrading in quality. There is, to my knowledge, no demand for entertainment and leisure facilities. The misjudgement by the Vale of the Botley development was made very clear in the recent unanimous rejection of the Doric proposals.

The claim that Botley functions as a district centre in an Oxford context is patently not true. It may act as a centre for outlying villages, but the never-ending traffic congestion on the Botley Road precludes all suggestion of non-essential travel between the two.

There appears no need to re-develop the area of Botley that covers the church and care home for the elderly.

Please note *your representation should cover succinctly all the information, evidence and supporting information necessary to support/justify the representation and the suggested modification, as there will not normally be a subsequent opportunity to make further representations based on the original representation at publication stage.*

After this stage, further submissions will be only at the request of the Inspector, based on the matters and issues he/she identifies for examination.

Q6 If your representation is seeking a modification, do you consider it necessary to participate at the oral part of the examination? No - I do not wish to participate at the oral examination