



Local Plan 2031 Part 2
Publication Version
Representation Form

Ref:

(For official
use only)

Name of the Local Plan to which this representation relates:

Vale of White Horse
Local Plan 2031 Part 2

Please return by 5pm on Wednesday 22 November 2017 to: Planning Policy, Vale of White Horse District Council, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Milton, Abingdon, OX14 4SB or email planning.policy@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

This form has two parts:

Part A – Personal Details

Part B – Your representation(s). Please fill in a separate sheet for each representation you wish to make.

Part A

1. Personal Details*

*If an agent is appointed, please complete only the Title, Name and Organisation boxes below but complete the full contact details of the agent in 2.

2. Agent's Details (if applicable)

Title	Professor	Mr
First Name	Elizabeth	Roy
Last Name	Browne	Browne
Job Title (where relevant)		
Organisation representing (where relevant)		Self
Address Line 1		
Address Line 2		
Address Line 3		
Postal Town		
Post Code		
Telephone Number		
Email Address		

Sharing your details: please see page 3

Part B – Please use a separate sheet for each representation

Name or organisation:

3. To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Paragraph

Policy

12a and 13a

Policies Map

4. Do you consider the Local Plan is: *(Please tick as appropriate)*

4. (1) Legally compliant

Yes

No

4. (2) Sound

Yes

No

4. (3) Compiles with the Duty to Cooperate

Yes

No

5. Please provide details of why you consider the Local Plan is not legally compliant or is unsound or fails to comply with the Duty to Cooperate. 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 Cooperate, please also use this box to set out your comments.

We object to the Local Plan Part 2 as the plan is unsound.

We endorse the SPADE (Sunningwell Parishioners Against Damage to the Environment) and Sunningwell Parish Council consultation responses.

The reasons for our objections are multiple. In fact, we are astounded that our Local Authority (the Vale of White Horse District Council) could have produced such a poorly conceived, weakly argued and environmentally damaging plan. Many of the outlines in Part 2 of the Local Plan have been hurriedly prepared and ill-conceived with little consideration given to the community, need or impact of the proposals.

Further details to our objections to the Plan are given below:

- We suggest that the siting of the Park and Ride (P&R) at Lodge Hill will create an increase to the already heavy traffic using minor roads in Sunningwell as a rat run! The roads are already damaged and not repaired, with road edges eroded as large 4x4cars race through the village. We suggest the Park and Ride should be built where its presence creates the best sustainability outcomes for the greatest number of potential users - at Marcham. There, it can be a transport hub for south bound journeys to Milton Park and Harwell, east to Abingdon and north to Oxford. Central and North Abingdon travel is already well served by the premium X3 bus service so moving the P&R to Marcham would not be detrimental overall.
- The Bus and Cycleways as shown cause severe detriment to the Green belt.

The road surfaces, fencing, lighting (and bus gates or equivalent to prevent unauthorised use) are inappropriate and intrusive on a ridge feature designated as Green Belt. The most recent study of this Green Belt, commissioned by the Vale of White Horse District Council and carried out by Hankinson Duckett Associates notes that these parcels of land “form part of the footslopes to Boars Hill”. Both Parcels are rural in character and are characteristic of the ‘Abingdon to Kennington Limestone Ridge with Woodland’ local Character Area. The Parcels form the rural setting to the village of Sunningwell. Both Parcels also contain numerous rights of way, which provide rural connections between local settlement and the wider landscape. There are open views of the land within Parcels 8 and 9 from these rights of way. Both Parcels have high landscape sensitivity and high visibility and neither is suitable for development in landscape and visual terms”. The report goes on to state that both have “a high contribution to at least one of the Green Belt Purposes. None of the Parcels are suitable for development in landscape and visual terms and development within any of these Parcels would harm the openness and integrity of the Green Belt.”

- The safeguarding proposals for both the P&R and associated public transport links as shown are premature, unnecessary, ill-conceived and illogical due to:
 - a. uncertainty of future development of the Dalton Barracks site beyond 2031
 - b. uncertainty of the long-term appropriateness of the Oxfordshire County Council Local Transport Plan, which proposes the ‘remote Park and Ride Strategy,’ including Lodge Hill due to the potential impacts of the OxCam Expressway proposals. If a south of Oxford expressway is created, with the intention and effect of freeing up the Oxford Ring Road, the current P&Rs will continue to be viable and the outer P&Rs may not be necessary.
 - c. existing planning protection due to Green Belt status of the land concerned. The Vale of White Horse District Council as planning authority can prevent all development on the safeguarded land so a ‘safeguarding’ approach is totally unnecessary and will create adverse and undue damage to the local housing market.
 - d. absence of funding for the outer P&R sites
 - e. absence of funding for the proposed A34 bus lane
 - f. absence of funding for the cycleway/bus lanes in Sunningwell Parish and the damage these will cause to a site of natural beauty.
 - g. uncertainty of the route’s commercial viability as a bus lane and inappropriateness as a cycle lane due to the high incline
 - h. probability of the route’s detrimental impact on the existing 4/4B service which serves Sunningwell, Wootton and Cumnor
 - i. poor route choices with parts of the route being safeguarded unnecessarily- an alternative route parallel to the A34 would be more appropriate and less costly due to the reduced number of crossing and access points for access to dwellings.
 - j. total failure to engage with landowners and the local community. To see lines drawn over our land and learn that our garden and indeed our neighbours house, will fall into safeguarded land was a complete shock. Do you have the right to draw lines on a map over land that belongs to local residents without asking them first? Do we live in a Stalinist state?

- k. failure to examine viable alternative options including: -
 - i. further enhancements to the existing service bus provision
 - ii. routing dedicated 'hopper' buses by way of the existing road network allowing sustainable access to the P&R for a far larger population
 - iii. alternative safeguarding of routes that would provide segregated cycleway provision along the Wootton Road and increased access by foot and cycle from the North Abingdon site allocation
 - iv. moving the P&R to Marcham, on MoD, land thus reducing environmental damage at Lodge Hill and reducing the potential costs of land purchase whilst also locating the P&R where housing growth is likely to be the greatest.

(Continue on page 4 /expand box if necessary)

6. Please set out what modification(s) you consider necessary to make the Local Plan legally compliant or sound, having regard to the matter you have identified at 5 above. (NB Please note that any non-compliance with the duty to cooperate 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.

We object to the safeguarding of land in Sunningwell Parish for bus and cycleways and the location of the Park and Ride at Lodge Hill because it is unsound. They should be removed from the plan and any future plans should **not** be brought forward without comprehensive engagement with the local community and landowners.

(Continue on page 4 /expand box if necessary)

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.

7. 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

Yes, I wish to participate at the oral examination

8. If you wish to participate at the oral part of the examination, please outline why you consider this to be necessary:

Please note the Inspector will determine the most appropriate procedure to hear those who have indicated that they wish to participate at the oral part of the examination.

Signature

Date:

21 November 2017

Sharing your personal details

Please be aware that, due to the process of having an Independent Examination, a name and means of contact is required for your representation to be considered. Respondent details and representations will be forwarded to the Inspector carrying out the examination of the Local Plan after the Publicity Period has ended. This data will be managed by a Programme Officer who acts as the point of contact between the council and the Inspector and respondents and the Inspector.

Representations cannot be treated as confidential and will be published on our website alongside your name. If you are responding as an individual rather than a company or organisation, we will not publish your contact details (email / postal address and telephone numbers) or signatures online, however the original representations are available for public viewing at our council office by prior appointment. All representations and related documents will be held by Vale of White Horse District Council for a period of 6 months after the Local Plan is adopted.

Would you like to hear from us in the future?

I would like to be kept informed about the progress of the Local Plan

I would like to be added to the database to receive general planning updates

Please do not contact me again

Further comment: Please use this space to provide further comment on the relevant questions in this form. **You must state which question your comment relates to.**

Alternative formats of this form are available on request. Please contact our customer service team on 01235 422600 (Text phone users add 18001 before you dial) or email planning.policy@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Please return this form by 5pm on Wednesday 22 November 2017 to: Planning Policy, Vale of White Horse District Council, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Milton, Abingdon, OX14 4SB or email planning.policy@whitehorsedc.gov.uk