

Comment

Consultee	Councillor Dudley Hoddinott (730195)
Email Address	
Company / Organisation	Vale of White Horse District Council
Address	17 Clover Close Cumnor Hill Oxford OX2 9JH
Event Name	Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 Part One - Publication
Comment by	Vale of White Horse District Council (Councillor Dudley Hoddinott)
Comment ID	LPPub734
Response Date	17/12/14 20:19
Consultation Point	Core Policy 13: The Oxford Green Belt (View)
Status	Submitted
Submission Type	Web
Version	0.1

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. N/A

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 local Green Belt Review (para 5.40) was a search to identify housing sites in the Vale's Green Belt. Once a site suitable for housing had been identified a justification was prepared to remove it from the Green Belt. Most of the justifications were almost identical and it was clear that the sites had not been visited. One site was in the middle of the Cumnor conservation area that contains important historical remains.

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 allocation of 1,510 houses on four sites in the Green Belt should be removed (N Abingdon 800, NW Abingdon 200, NW Radley 240 & S Kennington 270). These sites should be removed from the Green Belt, together with the other 11 sites identified for building on in the Green Belt. This means that the boundary around the Green Belt should be returned to the line held before this Local Plan was being produced. All references to the local Green Belt Review should be deleted.

As stated in Paragraph 1.21, the Vale Council should work with the County Council and the other Oxfordshire District Councils to complete an Oxfordshire-wide Strategic Green Belt Review. No land should be removed from the Vale's portion of the Green Belt and no strategic sites should be allocated until this review has been completed.

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, Yes - I wish to participate at the oral examination do you consider it necessary to participate at the oral part of the examination?

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

Q7 If you wish to participate at the oral part of the examination, please outline why you consider this to be necessary:

The use of the SHMA number is so important in this Local Plan but the Vale has not questioned the number. It should be challenged.