

## Comment

Consultee	Mr Francis Walsh (756099)
Email Address	[REDACTED]
Address	Samadhi Wantage OX12 7HP
Event Name	Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 Part One - Publication
Comment by	Mr Francis Walsh
Comment ID	LPPub3671
Response Date	22/01/15 16:06
Consultation Point	Core Policy 7: Providing Supporting Infrastructure and Services ( <a href="#">View</a> )
Status	Submitted
Submission Type	Email
Version	0.2
Q1 Do you consider the Local Plan is Legally Compliant?	No
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

**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.**

IDP Section 11. NHS England and the CCGs are unable to provide the information the Vale requested concerning infrastructure at the time of writing. They are willing to be party to discussions on growth but it is somewhat disconcerting that no planning appears to have taken place at these bodies given that some of the sites have been identified for development for over a decade and that the housing units in Wantage and Grove have and continue to increase. What expansion of capacity is to be provided at the Oxford hospitals as no increase is mentioned at Abingdon which, in any event is not a full function hospital having no A&E department or operating theatre. Equally the response, or lack of it, from the Emergency Services does not lead to confidence that there will be sufficient facilities available to support the increased population. The ambulance service in Oxfordshire has consistently not met the

service criteria. With such a large increase in population and no indication of additional capacity one can only see that things will deteriorate. In the Council's earlier plan there was mention of two Link Roads being of vital importance to the traffic flow in and around Wantage. The Eastern one (WELR) is to be built on Crab Hill but will not be a through road until the 500th unit has been occupied. One has to question why such a vital piece of infrastructure is not being built at the outset particularly as housing is to be built at either end of it initially. The residents of these new properties will be required to go through the Wantage centre to get to the other side of town. The Western Link road has been abandoned so vehicles wishing to journey to Faringdon will traverse the centre of the town. It is true that land has been reserved for the WWLR post 2031 but with no indication of what might happen then. Initial outline plans for the Grove Airfield showed both a south and a northern entry/exit road. The northern route was to have been constructed by the time the 500th dwelling was occupied. Discussion between developers and Council employees amended this to 'by the time the 1500th dwelling was occupied'. The Local Plan has no mention of the northern route. The southern route is therefore the entry point for residents, public transport and emergency vehicles. The consequences of it being placed for any reason could be serious for future residents. This point is not considered in the Plan.