

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 Proposals Map

4. Do you consider the Local Plan is :

4.(1) Legally compliant	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.(2) Sound (Positively Prepared, Effective and Justified)	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4 (3) Complies with the Duty to co-operate	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please mark as appropriate.

5. 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 Plan has no effective mechanisms to deliver the aim stated in 5.57 [blue box] that: “*The countryside and villages will have maintained their distinctive character. The Larger Villages will have retained their separate identities...*”. This aim is ignored in paras 5.81-5.84 which discuss the proximity of Harwell (and other villages) to Didcot.

The Plan also fails to propose an effective mechanism to deliver the requirements stated in this section for Harwell Village. This should set out to “protect from harmful development ... the important landscape settings of settlements.

Saved Policy NE10 states “In the urban fringes and important open gaps between settlements ... development or changes of use which would harm their essentially open or rural character will not be permitted.

There is nothing specific in the Plan which defines unambiguously the requirements for “maintenance of distinctive character / separate identity for Harwell village”. This is particularly but not exclusively true for the eastern side where it is encroached upon by Valley Park.

The definition of a ‘green wedge’ according to the NPPG is, “Green Wedges comprise the open areas around and between parts of settlements, which maintain the distinction between the countryside and built up areas, prevent the coalescence (merging) of adjacent places and can also provide recreational opportunities”. There is no provision in the Plan for the provision of such a Green Wedge in this area and there is no alternative mechanism proposed, which would achieve the same or a similar effect.

6. 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 at 5 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.

To achieve the objectives of 5.57 and Core Policy 44 sound, the Plan should identify a rural gap around the village of Harwell, where no development will be permitted. In particular, to the east of Harwell village, a Green Wedge must be provided covering both sides of the B4493 between the A34 and the present western edge of GWP.

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?

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No, I do not wish to participate at the oral examination

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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:

I am willing for my comments to be represented by representatives from Harwell Parish Council

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.

Signature:

Date:

18/12/14