

Comment

Consultee	Mr John Platts (872102)
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Address	8 Norfolk Close Radley Abingdon OX14 3BH
Event Name	Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 Part One - Publication
Comment by	Mr John Platts
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Consultation Point	Core Policy 13: The Oxford Green Belt (View)
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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.

Core Policy 13 :

As for Core Policy 2 above, this seems inconsistent with the Vale having carried out their own review and it would seem to raise the possibility of a succession of reviews each time a new housing needs assessment is produced.

To state it again the National Planning Policy Framework(NPPF) makes it clear that a green belt boundary should only be altered in 'exceptional circumstances' and the Government guidance (6 th March 2014) states that 'Unmet housing need is unlikely to outweigh the harm to the green belt and other harm to constitute the 'very exceptional circumstances' justifying inappropriate development on a site within the green belt'.

Also, the extension of the North Abingdon site east of Oxford Road into land that comprises Peachcroft Farm was included in the document prepared for consultation in April of this year.

The Vale green belt review of February 2014 did not recommend that this area was withdrawn from the green belt.

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.

I consider that this whole process fundamentally fails in the duty to co-operate, it is undemocratic and fails to allow the community to object as follows:

- 1 the timescale to complete this form, being in the run up to Christmas, makes it difficult to complete given the demands on people's time at this time of year;
- 2 the issues are expressed by the Vale in a complex form that makes it inaccessible to a significant proportion of our community;
- 3 the registration process before even filling in this form will exclude many in the community;
- 4 this form is difficult to use and requires a detailed knowledge of the local plan - this will again exclude many;
- 5 the paper copy states that it should be delivered to Planning Policy at the District Council at their office in Wallingford. This is no good if you live in Radley and wish to have a receipt!
- 6 the manner in which the first round of the consultation was undertaken and the means employed to disregard the views of hundreds of people in Radley gives little faith that the same will not happen again.

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? Yes - I wish to participate at the oral 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 process undertaken is, to date, fundamentally flawed (as covered above) and has been managed in such a way by the Vale that there has not yet been a genuine opportunity for the community to be heard. Therefore I would like the opportunity to participate.