

Comment

Consultee	Mr Michael Kilgour (867148)
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Address	43 Woodley Close Abingdon on Thames OX14 1YJ
Event Name	Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 Part One - Publication
Comment by	Mr Michael Kilgour
Comment ID	LPPub48
Response Date	07/12/14 15:15
Consultation Point	Core Policy 8: Spatial Strategy for Abingdon-on-Thames and Oxford Fringe Sub-Area (View)
Status	Submitted
Submission Type	Web
Version	0.2

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. North of Abingdon-on-Thames

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? Yes

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.

Abingdon has a strong claim to be the longest inhabited town in the country and archaeology indicates that people have been living in central Abingdon since at least the early Iron Age. To allow development

on this large prominent site on the northern edge of Abingdon, on higher ground than surrounding existing residential development, would undoubtedly affect the setting and special character of Abingdon. This would include not only the physical development and the setting itself in open countryside, but also the traffic generated. This increased traffic would have an immense impact on the narrow historic streets, many Listed buildings and the narrow river crossing which contribute to Abingdon's historic character.

A further concern in allowing the sites to be developed is the gradual slope of the land, rising towards the north and the physical prominence of any development. Any new development would be very visible from North Abingdon and beyond. This would include other parts of the Oxford Green Belt. A previous Planning Inspector referred to the landscape rim to the north of the town and concluded that this important area should be protected and not developed. The Landscape considerations included in the text in the Local Plan seek to retain the existing trees and hedgerows and the planting of additional trees.

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.

No building development on this Green Belt site.

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? No - I do not wish to participate at the oral examination