



**Vale of White Horse Local Plan Part One:
Strategic Sites and Policies**
Publication Stage Representation Form

Ref:

(For official
use only)

Name of the Local Plan to which this representation relates:

Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031

Response form for the Vale of White Horse strategic planning policy document, the Local Plan Part one. Please return to Planning Policy, Vale of White Horse District Council, Benson Lane, Crowmarsh, Wallingford, OX10 8ED or email planning.policy@whitehorsedc.gov.uk no later than Friday 19 December 2014 by 4.30 pm precisely.

This form has two parts –

Part A – Personal Details

Part B – Your representation(s). Please fill in a separate sheet for each representation you wish to make.

Part A

1. Personal Details*

**If an agent is appointed, please complete only the Title, Name and Organisation boxes below but complete the full contact details of the agent in 2.*

2. Agent's Details (if applicable)

Title

Mr

First Name

Robert

Last Name

Krykant

Job Title

(where relevant)

Organisation

(where relevant)

Address Line 1

14 Ballard Chase

Line 2

Abingdon on Thames

Line 3

Oxfordshire

Line 4

UK

Post Code

OX14 1XQ

Telephone Number

E-mail Address

(where relevant)

Part B – Please use a separate sheet for each representation

Name or Organisation : R.T. Krykant

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

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.

I wish to comment on the lack of Public Consultation of 'Local Plan 2031' by the Vale.

The Vale has not complied with its 'Statement of Community Involvement', and is not consistent with national policy by failing to involve the local community 'meaningfully' and with 'early involvement' (4.1 and 4.2 of Statement of Community Involvement).

The Vale held the first public consultation on the 'Local Plan 2031' in February 2013 using a display in a vacant shop in the town centre when no strategic sites had been specified.

Earlier this year, 2014, between dates that the Vale have been unable to provide, the Vale apparently ran a second public consultation period which did apparently specify building on the edge of North Abingdon. Residents were not directly notified and were simply left to rely by chance on discovering the information affecting them by visiting the Vale website or on posters apparently on display in the Library and the Vale planning offices located 5 miles approx. out of town. I had not visited the Library or other locations nor had I occasion to visit the Vale offices or website. I not been made aware of or saw any notification in the press or radio on this second public consultation.

Later public meetings on the technical third stage formal 'have your say' public consultation, where two meetings, were held locally by Cllr Sandy Lovatt Vice-Chair of Vale Planning, followed by a larger public meeting a few weeks later in November 2014 at the Abingdon Guildhall by planners and Cllrs. The overwhelming number of residents attending these three meetings made it very clear to the planners and Cllr's that they were not in favour of developing the North Abingdon Green Belt. They raised

numerous issues including protecting the Green Belt, negative traffic implications, infrastructure concerns, noise and pollution issues. It was also clear that the vast majority of these hundreds of residents had no previous knowledge of the North Abingdon plan until the late formal consultation period in November 2014 when two Vale leaflets, 'The Future of the Vale' and 'Supporting Growth', notified them of the Vale's proposal. The Vale then proceeded to present the plan to build 1000 new houses on North Abingdon in terms of 'when these houses are built' 'the CIL will provide for other Vale projects such as a new bridge over the river Thames in south Abingdon'

The presentation included statements such as 'the Green Belt review highlighted areas that had changed and were no longer required as Green Belt,' I asked the head planner what exactly had changed in the North Abingdon Green Belt and why the Green Belt was no longer required. The head planner could not provide an answer saying that 'I do not know', and proceeded to direct me to the overwhelming number of Vale documents on the website to try and find an answer myself, I have been unable to find any evidence to support the statement expressed by the head planner that the North Abingdon Green Belt had changed or why it was no longer required.

The Vale failed to 'meaningfully' involve the local community in the very important second stage public consultation This is demonstrated by the widespread lack of awareness. The Vale has demonstrated, by the distribution of these late third stage leaflets that notifying residents directly by leaflet is the transparent and open method of ensuring the involvement of the community, being practical and easily achieved. Hiding a planning article in the local paper or on the Vale website or offices is not a genuine or 'meaningful' attempt to fulfil community involvement at an early stage.

I have not met a resident of North Abingdon who had been aware of the second stage public consultation. I have requested information from the Vale to show how many responses were made to the second informal public consultation including a breakdown of how many for and against. To date I have not received this information.

The Vale 'Local Plan 2031' cannot be considered Legally compliant, Sound or within the Duty to Cooperate as the local community were not involved at an early stage and no real attempt was made by the Vale to inform or involve the community of the proposal to build 1000 new houses on North Abingdon Green Belt, not more so than the land to the east of the A4183 which was included as a last minute manoeuvre after other sites had been withdrawn by the Vale on the grounds of Green Belt and Traffic reasons. The reasoning for those removals is extremely contradictory as exactly the same argument can be made for the land in North Abingdon.

(I would also like to draw your attention to the difficult nature of these forms, they are very frustrating, not user friendly and must have put off a lot of people from 'having their say').

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.

The Vale Local plan 2031 to be held as not complying with the Statement of Community Involvement and efforts should be made to consult affected communities undertaken before any decision to proceed is considered.

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?

Signature:

Date:

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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:

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.