



**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

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

Ms

First Name

Antoinette

Last Name

Meehan

Job Title

(where relevant)

Organisation

(where relevant)

Address Line 1

18A Abingdon Road

Line 2

Cumnor

Line 3

Oxford

Line 4

Post Code

OX2 9QN

Telephone Number

E-mail Address

(where relevant)

Part B – Please use a separate sheet for each representation

Name or Organisation : Antoinette Meehan

3. To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Paragraph

Policy

4

Proposals Map

4. Do you consider the Local Plan is :

4.(1) Legally compliant

Yes

No

4.(2) Sound (Positively Prepared, Effective and Justified)

Yes

No

x

4 (3) Complies with the Duty to co-operate

Yes

No

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.

I am not convinced by the forecasts of housing needs. As I understand it, the report on the SHMA is based has been criticized in several quarters, and one planning expert has concluded that the estimates are grossly over-estimated. It appears that independent expert advice has not been fully taken into account. In my view, this makes the SHMA as it stands an unsound proposition.

(continue on a separate sheet/expand box if necessary)

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.

Further investigation is needed, both into the real need for housing and also into the social, environmental and infrastructure impact it would have. More time and a wider scope should be given to the necessary investigations to ensure that the plans are fully appropriate to the needs of the communities in the Vale.

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?

x

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

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.

Signature:

Date:

18 Dec 2014

Part B – Please use a separate sheet for each representation

Name or Organisation : Antoinette Meehan

3. To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Paragraph

Policy

13

Proposals Map

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Yes

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Yes

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Yes

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I am concerned that a number of sites around the village of Cumnor are proposed for removal from the Green Belt. The reason for this is not clear. The South Cumnor strategic site (numbers 6 and 24 on the plan) has already been withdrawn as unsuitable for new housing. Removing these sites from the Green Belt would open the way for unacceptable levels of speculative development leading to urban sprawl, which would have a severe impact on the environment of Cumnor village.

This is also surely inconsistent with the NPPF, which makes it clear that a Green Belt boundary should only be altered in exceptional circumstances. The claimed housing needs in the Vale's plan, which are unproven, are surely not exceptional circumstances.

(continue on a separate sheet/expand box if necessary)

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I don't believe there are any modifications to this – the sites around Cumnor should remain within the Green Belt. No good reason has been put forward for removing them. It is a major concern that once the land is removed from the Green Belt it will be at risk of development even it is not immediately identified as a strategic site.

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18 Dec 2014

Part B – Please use a separate sheet for each representation

Name or Organisation : Antoinette Meehan

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Paragraph

Policy

7

Proposals Map

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There is a lack of appropriate infrastructure to support the Plan. Public services and infrastructure are already overstretched and unable to cope. Improvements would have only a marginal effect if the underlying requirements are not in place. Cumnor village is already beset with problems around traffic and drains. The primary school is already at full capacity and there is no space to expand. Transport links in particular are a great concern.

(continue on a separate sheet/expand box if necessary)

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The Plan needs to be more thoroughly investigated and planned to take into proper account the impact on the village of Cumnor. The proposals seem to take little account of the damage to the environment of excessive development, which as yet has not been properly accounted for.

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18 Dec 2014