

Comment

Consultee	Mrs Vivienne Illingworth (868096)
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Event Name	Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 Part One - Publication
Comment by	Mrs Vivienne Illingworth
Comment ID	LPPub741
Response Date	17/12/14 20:27
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

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.

The proposed sites in North Abingdon are next to a ?Market Town? may appear to be sustainably placed if only a map-work exercise is done, but the reality is different. The sites are in the Green Belt, in an area with already seriously congested roads. There is almost no employment in North Abingdon, so people living there need to travel through the town to get to jobs in the south, or go onto the A34. The centre of town already experiences long traffic delays at peak times and the air quality is below EU standards. The A34 is already at capacity, and journey times are long at peak times. Also there are frequent lengthy hold-ups on it every time someone breaks down or has even a minor accident. For example, there have been incidents twice this week alone (w/c 15/12/14)

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.

Genuinely sustainable sites need to be found by looking at conditions on the ground. If none are available, it is not sensible to be required to build in unsustainable locations. Growth should be promoted on other districts where it is more needed.