Comment

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Event Name Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 Part One -

Publication

Comment by Mrs Vivienne Illingworth

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Consultation Point Core Policy 8: Spatial Strategy for

Abingdon-on-Thames and Oxford Fringe Sub-Area

(View)

Status Submitted

Submission Type Web

Version 0.3

Q1 Do you consider the Local Plan is Legally

Compliant?

Yes

No

Q2 Do you consider the Local Plan is Sound

(positively prepared, effective and Justified)

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 assessment that Abingdon is the most sustainable development is flawed as I have explained in my responses to chapter 4 and to paragraph 5.7. In addition, the development would not provide sufficient money for the upgrade of the A34 Lodge Hill junction as explained in my response to paragraph 4.15. Also, if the money were found to build it, it would only add to the existing traffic problems on the A34. In addition, if the N. Abingdon development were built, Dunmore Road would no longer function as a ring road, and the A34 would become the Abingdon ring road. This is something the Highways Agency did not want to happen, which seems to be why the junction was built as it was in the first place. An improvement to the junction is unlikely to existing alleviate traffic problems in the town since many people living in the new development would need to drive south through the town to get to jobs which are mainly in the south, and to get to the central shopping area.

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.

The plan should acknowledge that development in N. Abingdon will in fact aggravate existing traffic problems both on the A34 and through town and thus exclude it on the grounds of unsustainability.