

## Comment

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Event Name	Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 Part One - Publication
Comment by	Professor Basil Crowley
Comment ID	LPPub527
Response Date	16/12/14 20:35
Consultation Point	Core Policy 8: Spatial Strategy for Abingdon-on-Thames and Oxford Fringe Sub-Area continued from previous page ( <a href="#">View</a> )
Status	Submitted
Submission Type	Web
Version	0.1
Q1 Do you consider the Local Plan is Legally Compliant?	No
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 eastern extension to the North Abingdon site lies entirely in the Parish of Radley. This site did not appear in the first published draft of the plan, and its inclusion is an example of the ad hoc way the so-called Green Belt review is/has been carried out, ad hoc in the sense of being solely for the purpose of releasing land for housing development without due regard for the importance of the land in its Green Belt context. This site is currently good agricultural land being used productively. The land is in the Green Belt. It is part of the setting of the Radley College Mansion House. The development of sites along the northern edge of the Abingdon peripheral (aka orbital) road will compromise the existing

functionality of that road and will give rise to increased traffic congestion within and around the town. Thus there are already good planning reasons why this site should not be developed, none of which seem to matter in the overall context of this plan.

**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 eastern extension of the North Abingdon site should be removed from the plan due to this land having not been included in the original Green Belt review, and would therefore be seen as being the result of a haphazard, piecemeal review whose sole purpose was to release land for development, which surely cannot be legal.

Any sites to the north of Abingdon, including Radley, that are currently in the Green Belt should also be struck from the plan on the grounds that they are contrary to the NPPF and accompanying government guidance.

**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