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Draft Local Plan 2031

(Comment ID LPPub456)

I originally submitted my response to the Draft Local Plan 2041 on line on the 16th December but when I printed off my submission and the Comment Receipt (ID - LPPub456) it did not show the text for Question 4.

I phoned the Planning Department and Mr Ben Davis confirmed that the text was missing. He apologised and agreed that I should send the text to him by email. I did this and asked for confirmation that it had been added to my response.

I have received no confirmation and have not been able to contact him again. I am, therefore, re-submitting my response manually in case the on line response has not been actioned.



P.J. Clare
19th December 2014

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

Ref: 10
872038
(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

MR

First Name

PETER

Last Name

CLARE

Job Title

—

(where relevant)

Organisation

—

(where relevant)

Address Line 1

24 WOOTTON ROAD

Line 2

ABINGDON

Line 3

OXFORDSHIRE

Line 4

Post Code

OX14 1JD

Telephone Number

01235 529509

E-mail Address

(where relevant)

petersusan.clare@btinternet.com

Part B – Please use a separate sheet for each representation

Name or Organisation :

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

Paragraph

5.39

Policy

13

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

☐

NO

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.

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

ATTACHED

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.

I believe that the Green Belt north of Abingdon should be protected from development.

Oxford Green Belt

In 2013 the Vale of the White Horse District Council stated in Draft Local Plan 2026: **The Green Belt around the north side of Abingdon will be protected from development.**

(This has been the Council's policy throughout the 40 years I have lived in Abingdon).

CPT3
This Draft Local Plan 2026 also showed that the Council proposed 1500 new homes to the south west of Abingdon together with land allocated for an employment site. It was to have been serviced by a new road linking the (B4017) Drayton Road to the (A415) Marcham Road giving it southern access to the A34. When the SHMA targets were introduced I believe that the Council should first have re-examined the proposed south western development. It has given no explanation for not doing so in spite of the knowledge that 70% of the jobs identified in the new Draft local Plan 2031 (4. Spatial Strategy, page 35, fig.4.2 Planned Economic Growth Areas: Harwell, Milton & Didcot) are associated with the Science Vale to the south of Abingdon. In my opinion this option of building to the south should have gone to public consultation.

Since the public consultation meeting held on 11th March 2014 to discuss the Draft Local Plan 2031, the District Council has increased the number of dwellings from 610 to 800 by adding a **new site** in the Abingdon Green Belt to the east of the A4183 (Appendix A page 9). There was no public announcement of this serious change to the Draft Plan. At the public meeting held on 19th November, which was held after the adoption of the Draft Local Plan by the District Council on 15th October, the public had no opportunity to make any objections to this further change to the Green Belt. In fact, a number of people living in that area were not aware of the additional loss of Green Belt until they attended the meeting. I must stress that this is not merely increasing the numbers on the existing north site but is creating a completely new site within the Green Belt.

CPT8
No mention has been made in the Plan that the North Abingdon development (Appendix A) will be on **rising ground** to the top of Lodge Hill and that this development will dominate the view from Abingdon towards the north completely changing the rural character of this area.

GP 13
The rural nature of the Vale to the south of Oxford has historically been due to the Green Belt which was planned to avoid urban sprawl between Abingdon and Oxford. The effect of Local Draft Plan 2031 will be the urbanisation of the countryside which will include the villages of Kennington, Radley and the Green Belt north of Abingdon. In the Government Press Release updated on the 6th October 2014 Eric Pickles said "*the Government has been very clear that when planning for new buildings, protecting our precious Green Belt must be paramount. Local people don't want to lose their countryside to urban sprawl or see the vital green lungs around their towns and cities lost to unnecessary development.*"

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?

NO

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:

J. Clare

Date:

19.12.14