

Comment

Consultee	Dr Susan Nodder (723546)
Email Address	[REDACTED]
Company / Organisation	Watchfield Parish Council
Address	11 Oxford Square Watchfield SN6 8TB
Event Name	Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 Part One - Publication
Comment by	Watchfield Parish Council (Dr Susan Nodder)
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Response Date	20/01/15 15:52
Consultation Point	Core Policy 38: Design Strategies for Strategic and Major Development Sites (View)
Status	Submitted
Submission Type	Email
Version	0.5
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.	N/A

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.

Design ? all the proposed developments will be ?high quality? according to the Local Plan. There is no indication how the Vale proposes to enforce this. This cannot be a subjective decision by each planning officer. There are no commitments to ensuring the houses are built to the highest sustainability standards and the opportunity has not been taken to insist on green technology options as standard. The Vale could be leading the way regarding the reduction of the environmental impact of new housing rather than trying to win the race to the bottom. There are no targets or specific provision for housing for the elderly, e.g. bungalows. If the government and Vale are serious about older people retaining

the ability to live independent lives in their own homes for longer, provision has to be statutory. The statement in the Local Plan that the 'high quality and rich heritage of the Vale's villages and towns contributes significantly to its attractiveness as a place to live and invest in. It is important these qualities and characteristics are protected' is not backed up by any definite proposals for how this is to be achieved.

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.

This version of the Local Plan still appears developer-led and, if implemented, will adversely affect existing and future residents of the Vale. We ask that these concerns are fully addressed before proceeding.

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? Yes - I wish to participate at the oral examination

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.

Q7 If you wish to participate at the oral part of the examination, please outline why you consider this to be necessary:

Watchfield Parish Council, would like the opportunity to participate, directly or via a WVV representative, at the oral examination of the Local Plan and/or to present further and more detailed evidence in support of some or all of the representations set out. We also wish oral evidence, and any further written evidence which may be required of him by the inspector, to be presented by our road transport consultant Bob Hindhaugh and/or his associate Simon Boone.