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Subject: Draft Plan Consultation - Comments

1. Need to build more houses, bring down income multiplier, failing our young if they cannot house themselves through market. High house prices impediment to growth. Planning should not be just about keeping up the value of development land. 2. Need to improve quality of housing developments. World War 1 anniversary, houses fit for heroes, yet current developments inferior to best pre war - eg Port Sunlight/ Bourneville. No point in growth if not reflected in improved quality of life. 3. Growth not the same as quality of life eg charging for car parks. Common/public goods can boost quality of life but may generate no monetary income, therefore growth. Parallel objective should be to enhance life of all regardless of income. 4. Infrastructure - Leaflets seem to be primarily concerned with road. What about light rail rapid passenger systems - as used on continent etc. These can both boost growth and life quality by allowing people to move about easily and cheaply free of traffic congestion eg link Didcot to Oxford to Bicester. Finance by developing P&R car parks for housing. Crazy that Abingdon rail link built on / closed just as Abingdon expanded as Oxford overspill. Don't repeat mistakes of past. 5. Housing design guide - suggestions. Encourage access of smaller builders to development sites - fewer of the standard house types of the national house builders. See also comments on Port Sunlight above - Not help but homes for heroes! Include ability to ask for larger windows in living rooms, we'll soon be building houses with no windows. Houses should be adequately lit naturally - part of a green agenda? Refuse - very important, L Auth's forced to resort to multiple wheelly bins to reduce costs. This reduces our estates of smaller/terrace houses to a tip. Design guide must include refuse arrangements that don't blight the urban scape.

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