

Comment

Consultee	R Mackay (873637)
Address	31 Lansdowne Road Dry Sandford Abingdon OX13 6EA
Event Name	Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 Part One - Publication
Comment by	R Mackay
Comment ID	LPPub1421
Response Date	07/01/15 11:51
Consultation Point	Core Policy 13: The Oxford Green Belt (View)
Status	Processed
Submission Type	Letter
Version	0.3
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.

An objection to the Green Belt Review proposal: Wooton, Dry Sandford and the surrounding areas.

The loss of significant swathes of greenbelt land will have a very detrimental impact upon the social, leisure and recreational activities that the local population currently use this land for-family outings, walks, rambling, dog walking, exercise, usage by young people. In particular young people will have less natural open space and green fields within which to exercise and socialise. At a time when childhood obesity is on the rise and when RMBC has dealing with this problem as a high priority, as part of the Every child matters Agenda, this development proposal will have a detrimental impact on this objective as vital areas for play and exercise will be lost, impacting upon both child and adult health.

This proposal, if it went ahead, would not only severely undermine and weaken social and recreational land for the current residents and population there would also be an increased demand for usage of this type of green space due to any residents/population arriving and yet there would be far less greenbelt land available to meet this need.

What it would mean to the local community:

- The loss of a tremendous amount of Greenbelt and farm land.
- The disturbance and loss of wildlife in the nearby woodland and Lashford Lane Fen nature resort. This small, but amazingly diverse, wet, shallow valley is a great place to explore all year round. Lashford Lane's wide range of habitats includes reedbeds, limestone grassland, scrub, woodland and fen. The council has a duty to protect woodland and the wild life under the UK BIO Diversity Action Plan.
- Loss of Land for Social and Recreational Use means the loss of valuable, heavily used recreational spaces for the local populace of all age groups to enjoy.
- Disruption of local footpaths and bridleways.
- Loss of the natural break from the other nearby communities, creating an ugly urban sprawl.
- An over capacity for local schools and doctors
- Heavy traffic on local roads which are not suitable for the amount of housing proposed. They are always in a poor state of repair.
- All houses in the area were built in the last century and don't have a surface water drainage system. Properties with ground soakaway will be tremendously affected by the new development as this will significantly reduce rain water absorption for the village.
- More, excessive, housing would increase the Carbon Footprint.

We urge the council not to consider building on the Greenbelt or farmland, but to utilise the numerous BROWNFIELD sites. These would more the meet the current housing demand.