

Comment

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Event Name	Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 Part One - Publication
Comment by	Mr R Garrett
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Response Date	26/01/15 10:45
Consultation Point	Core Policy 4: Meeting Our Housing Needs (View)
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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

If you think your comment relates to the DtC, this is about how we have worked with the Duty to Cooperate bodies (such as neighbouring planning authorities)

Q3 Do you consider the Local Plan complies with the Duty to Co-operate? Yes

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 'objectively assessed need for economic and housing growth' proposes that there will be a very large increase in the number of jobs in the Vale (23,000) and that this will lead to a similarly large increase in the need for housing (20,560). Based on average household sizes this projects a population

growth in the Vale of 38% over 17 years. Historical growth has been significantly less and Oxfordshire County Council's projections for 2006-2026 are for 17.8% population growth in the vale. We think that many other scenarios are possible. It is almost impossible to accurately predict 17 years into the future with so much certainty. Other possibilities are that there may be less new jobs than predicted so no need for so much housing. The new developments could be high tech, high investment, but produce few new jobs. Yet another option is that new technology may drastically reduce the number of existing jobs and so existing residents will need the new jobs.

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 council's projection seem to be double what is reasonable. These figures need further justification before a plan is approved using them as a basis.

Officer comments

Whilst not necessary as I am sure the Inspector will consider these submissions, I would value hearing the process and would be willing to answer any additional questions.

***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