



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

Ref:

(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](mailto: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

Hobin

Job Title

(where relevant)

Organisation

(where relevant)

Address Line 1

14 The Cleave

Line 2

Harwell

Line 3

Didcot

Line 4

Oxfordshire

Post Code

OX11 0EL

Telephone Number

E-mail Address

(where relevant)

## 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  Policy  Proposals Map

4. Do you consider the Local Plan is :

4.(1) Legally compliant	Yes	<input type="text" value="x"/>	No	<input type="text"/>
4.(2) Sound (Positively Prepared, Effective and Justified)	Yes	<input type="text"/>	No	<input type="text" value="x"/>
4 (3) Complies with the Duty to co-operate	Yes	<input type="text" value="x"/>	No	<input type="text"/>

*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.

The plan is inconsistent.

Core Policy 3 and saved policy NE10 (assessed as fully consistent with NPPF) aim to protect the land around Harwell village (not Harwell Parish) from urban sprawl by ensuring there is a rural gap. Whereas NE10 is explicit about this, CP3 simply says that development in and around larger villages will be limited to that which supports the local needs of the village. Fig 4.1 says the strategy will promote thriving villages...whilst safeguarding...the village character.

However some of the land designated as protected by NE10 has been allocated to the Valley Park site (2550 homes planned). The proposed plan effectively leads to coalescence of Harwell village with Valley Park/Great Western Park/Didcot destroying the village character. It also does great damage to the important concepts noted in the NPPF section 80 (first 4 bullets) for the residents of our 1000 year old Harwell Village.

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

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.

There are 3 things that could be done to address the inconsistency. They are given in order of preference:

- Reduce the size of Valley Park (probably only needs a reduction of <10%) so as to ensure that there is a proper rural gap between Harwell village and Great Western Park. If the housing numbers need to be retained, increase the housing density of the remaining Valley Park.
- Delay the allocation of the above land for as long as possible in the plan period so as to ensure that employment assumed by the SHMA (and hence housing needs) actually materialises. There are many who doubt the employment and housing figures in the SHMA and it would be tragic to sacrifice the important rural gap before it was necessary.
- Maintain the Valley Park plan, but require an extensive green area/open space along the B4493. Redefine the land for which NE10 applies so that inconsistencies are removed and give great weight to the enforcement to the successor of NE10 in the Local Plan Part 2

***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**, 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:

I do not believe that sufficient weight has been given to the importance of a rural gap between Harwell and Didcot. I feel let down by our councillors. I feel that the inspector needs to hear that these concerns are important and serious which can best be done by appearing 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.

Signature:



Date:

17/12/14

