



**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 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

Mrs

First Name

Cathy

Last Name

Cornish

Job Title

(where relevant)

Organisation

(where relevant)

Address Line 1

20 The Park

Line 2

Harwell

Line 3

Oxon

Line 4

Post Code

OX11 0HB

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

Core
Policies 4
& 5

Proposals Map

4. Do you consider the Local Plan is :

4.(1) Legally compliant

Yes

X

No

4.(2) Sound (Positively Prepared, Effective and Justified)

Yes

No

4 (3) Complies with the Duty to co-operate

Yes

X

No

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.

Core Policy 4 for meeting housing needs and Core Policy 5 that flows from it are based on the Strategic Housing Market Assessment for Oxfordshire (SHMA). The SHMA has been criticised by many people, but particularly by the CPRE based on a report commissioned by them from Professor Alan Wenban-Smith. The detailed issues are very technical in a way that is beyond ordinary members of the public, but there appear to be serious grounds for questioning the figures, especially when they have led to such a large increase in the prediction of the number of houses required, seemingly driven by a large increase in the predicted number of new jobs in the area. Until these criticisms have been objectively assessed the policy must be considered unsound. Certainly some of the numbers from the SHMA seem to be unrealistic.

(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.

To make Core Policies 4 and 5 sound they must have a housing needs basis that has been more critically examined than the SHMA, and has addressed the criticisms of the CPRE report. The numbers and sites from the 2013 draft Local Plan should replace those in this version. Even if higher numbers are confirmed as the most reliable forecast, there should still be a mechanism for adjusting the plans should reality not match up to the forecast, or if infrastructure to cope with the large increase in housing cannot be delivered.

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?

☒ X

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 am willing for my concerns to be represented by the Keep Harwell Rural Campaign.

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:

19/12/14