

South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2034

Page 3: Part A - contact details

Q1. Are you responding as an:

Individual

Page 4: Individual contact details

Q2. Due to the plan-making process including an independent examination, a name and means of contact is required for your comments to be considered:

Title	Dr
Full name	James Bennett
Business / Organisation name (if relevant)	-
Job title (if relevant)	-
Address line 1	██████████
Address line 2	██████
Address line 3	-
Postal town	██████████
Postcode	██████
Telephone number	██████████
Email address	████████████████████

Page 7: Part B - your comments

Q5. For comments on the Local Plan, please provide the paragraph or policy to which your comments relates. You can view a list of policies here. If you wish to comment on one of the evidence documents or the policies maps, please state the document title as well as the paragraph or policy reference.

Document / Policy / Paragraph: Sustainability Appraisal

Q6. Do you consider the Local Plan and supporting documents:

	Yes	No	Don't know	Not answered (OPTION HIDDEN FROM LIVE SURVEY)
are legally compliant?		X		
are sound?		X		
comply with the Duty to Co-operate?		X		

Q7. Please provide further information in relation to the previous question. e.g. why you do or do not consider the Local Plan to be legally compliant or sound.

The Sustainability Appraisal Document, dated December 2018 is only a draft document. It comes with a disclaimer, saying it "has not been finalised or formally reviewed" and also "Any calculations or findings presented here may be changed or altered ". How can that be sound?

Q10. Would you like to participate at the oral part of the examination, which takes place as part of the examination process?

No

Q11. Would you like to comment on another policy or paragraph?

Yes

Page 9: Part B - your comments

Q12. For comments on the Local Plan, please provide the paragraph or policy to which your comments relates. You can view a list of policies here. If you wish to comment on one of the evidence documents or the policies maps, please state the document title as well as the paragraph or policy reference.

Document / Policy / Paragraph: Sustainability Appraisal

Q13. Do you consider the Local Plan and supporting documents:

	Yes	No	Don't know	Not answered (OPTION HIDDEN FROM LIVE SURVEY)
are legally compliant?		X		
are sound?		X		
comply with the Duty to Co-operate?		X		

Q14. Please provide further information in relation to the previous question. e.g. why you do or do not consider the Local Plan to be legally compliant or sound.

In table NTS1, objective 6 is "To improve travel choice and accessibility, reduce the need to travel by car and shorten the length and duration of journeys". In Table NTS4 it is claimed that the Culham Science Village option will have a strong positive benefit on transport. How can this be sound analysis? I do not understand how anyone thinks more traffic will help:

- Part of the SODC plan is to build extra houses in SODC area to make up for a shortfall in Oxford itself. Those people living in SODC area will need to travel further than if they lived in Oxford.
- People living in the new "village" will need to travel to work, i.e. Oxford, Milton Park, and via the A34. They will need to travel to shops, i.e. Abingdon. They will drive. If you build 3500 houses there will be an extra 3500 cars, and they will all travel on the A415. I cycle along that road and I have to say the A415 is already busy, dangerous, with some aggressive drivers. Extra cars on the road are very likely to make people like me give up cycling and take up driving, purely for safety.

Q17. Would you like to participate at the oral part of the examination, which takes place as part of the examination process?

No

Q18. Would you like to comment on another policy or paragraph?

Yes

Page 11: Part B - your comments

Q19. For comments on the Local Plan, please provide the paragraph or policy to which your comments relates. You can view a list of policies [here](#). If you wish to comment on one of the evidence documents or the policies maps, please state the document title as well as the paragraph or policy reference.

Document / Policy / Paragraph: Local plan section 1.5

Q20. Do you consider the Local Plan and supporting documents:

	Yes	No	Don't know	Not answered (OPTION HIDDEN FROM LIVE SURVEY)
are legally compliant?		X		
are sound?		X		
comply with the Duty to Co-operate?		X		

Q21. Please provide further information in relation to the previous question. e.g. why you do or do not consider the Local Plan to be legally compliant or sound.

You say the plan needs "to make sure that we have a healthy supply of developable land;". I'm not sure what you mean by healthy. Clearly it is not healthy to the environment - your Sustainability Appraisal shows that nearly all options have a strong negative impact on biodiversity.

Land doesn't grow on trees. The only place you are going to find developable land is by taking it from agriculture or the green belt. Ultimately neither of these are health or sustainable.

Q24. Would you like to participate at the oral part of the examination, which takes place as part of the examination process?

No

Q25. Would you like to comment on another policy or paragraph?

Yes

Page 13: Part B - your comments

Q26. For comments on the Local Plan, please provide the paragraph or policy to which your comments relates. You can view a list of policies here. If you wish to comment on one of the evidence documents or the policies maps, please state the document title as well as the paragraph or policy reference.

Document / Policy / Paragraph: SODC plan STRAT9

Q27. Do you consider the Local Plan and supporting documents:

	Yes	No	Don't know	Not answered (OPTION HIDDEN FROM LIVE SURVEY)
are legally compliant?			X	
are sound?			X	
comply with the Duty to Co-operate?			X	

Q28. Please provide further information in relation to the previous question. e.g. why you do or do not consider the Local Plan to be legally compliant or sound.

Why do you refer to the A405 - that is in Watford?

Q31. Would you like to participate at the oral part of the examination, which takes place as part of the examination process?

No

Q32. Would you like to comment on another policy or paragraph?

Yes

Page 15: Part B - your comments

Q33. For comments on the Local Plan, please provide the paragraph or policy to which your comments relates. You can view a list of policies here. If you wish to comment on one of the evidence documents or the policies maps, please state the document title as well as the paragraph or policy reference.

Document / Policy / Paragraph: SODC plan H14

Q34. Do you consider the Local Plan and supporting documents:

	Yes	No	Don't know	Not answered (OPTION HIDDEN FROM LIVE SURVEY)
are legally compliant?			X	
are sound?			X	
comply with the Duty to Co-operate?			X	

Q35. Please provide further information in relation to the previous question. e.g. why you do or do not consider the Local Plan to be legally compliant or sound.

You refer to

- 3 pitches for Gypsies and Travellers at Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre (STRAT7) as shown on the policies map 110
- 3 pitches for Gypsies and Travellers at Land at Chalgrove Airfield (STRAT9) as shown on the policies map

i think you have got your STRATs confused

Q36. Please set out any modifications you consider necessary to make the Local Plan legally compliant or sound, having regard to your comments above. (NB - any non-compliance with the duty to co-operate is incapable of modification at examination). It will be helpful if you could put forward your suggested wording of any policy or text as precisely as possible.

- 3 pitches for Gypsies and Travellers at Land adjacent to Culham Science Centre (STRAT9) as shown on the policies map 110
- 3 pitches for Gypsies and Travellers at Land at Chalgrove Airfield (STRAT7) as shown on the policies map

Q38. Would you like to participate at the oral part of the examination, which takes place as part of the examination process?

No

Q39. Would you like to comment on another policy or paragraph?

Yes

Page 17: Part B - your comments

Q40. For comments on the Local Plan, please provide the paragraph or policy to which your comments relates. You can view a list of policies [here](#). If you wish to comment on one of the evidence documents or the policies maps, please state the document title as well as the paragraph or policy reference.

Document / Policy / Paragraph: SODC plan, 4.2

Q41. Do you consider the Local Plan and supporting documents:

	Yes	No	Don't know	Not answered (OPTION HIDDEN FROM LIVE SURVEY)
are legally compliant?			X	
are sound?		X		
comply with the Duty to Co-operate?			X	

Q42. Please provide further information in relation to the previous question. e.g. why you do or do not consider the Local Plan to be legally compliant or sound.

Objective 4.2 is contradictory. You either want to "Make sustainable transport, walking and cycling an attractive and viable choice for people" or you don't.

If you are going to increase the number of people in the region, and "recognise that car travel and parking provision will continue to be important in this predominantly rural District" then you will increase the number of cars on the road and you will increase the congestion and you will make cycling on the roads and in our towns less safe and less attractive.

This is just a fudge.

Q45. Would you like to participate at the oral part of the examination, which takes place as part of the examination process?

No

Q46. Would you like to comment on another policy or paragraph?

Yes

Page 19: Part B - your comments

Q47. For comments on the Local Plan, please provide the paragraph or policy to which your comments relates. You can view a list of policies here. If you wish to comment on one of the evidence documents or the policies maps, please state the document title as well as the paragraph or policy reference.

Document / Policy / Paragraph: SODC plan, STRAT 9

Q48. Do you consider the Local Plan and supporting documents:

	Yes	No	Don't know	Not answered (OPTION HIDDEN FROM LIVE SURVEY)
are legally compliant?		X		
are sound?		X		
comply with the Duty to Co-operate?		X		

Q49. Please provide further information in relation to the previous question. e.g. why you do or do not consider the Local Plan to be legally compliant or sound.

I am a cycle commuter. I am happy to cycle distances up to 10 miles for work or for shopping. But I am extremely concerned by the safety of the local roads and I am very afraid that extra traffic and congestion will make my travel less safe and may even force me to give up cycling and to drive instead.

You claim (Section 4.44) you want "A "step change" in travel choices away from car travel towards public transport, cycling and walking with Didcot at the heart of a fully connected Science Vale". I have to say that the idea of building 3500 houses, and introducing an extra 3500 cars on to the roads around Culham will produce a step change in the opposite direction. The people in the new houses will want to drive to Oxford, to Milton Park (via Culham Bridge and through Sutton Courtenay) , to the A34, (through Sutton Courtenay or Abingdon) and to Abingdon shops (via the A415 and Abingdon bridge). These routes are already congested at rush hours and are already borderline dangerous for cyclists. It seems likely that people like me who do cycle-commute may have to give up.

I despair at the current planning for cyclists like me. Whenever there is a new development, there is always some "tick-box" cycling provision. Often this is 100 yards of disconnected cycle lane, going no where. Sometimes a white line is painted on the road, or green tarmac is laid down, neither of which will stop a lorry squishing a child. At the recent A34 Milton Interchange, they have put in a cycle path but there are 5 separate crossings I need to negotiate to get round it. If I was a young child that might be good thing, but as a cycle commuter it is useless and I take my chance with the traffic. Why doesn't anyone consult the people who actually want to cycle (UK Cycling perhaps?) instead of coming up with these nonsense plans.

Q52. Would you like to participate at the oral part of the examination, which takes place as part of the examination process?

No

Q53. Would you like to comment on another policy or paragraph?

Yes

Page 21: Part B - your comments

Q54. For comments on the Local Plan, please provide the paragraph or policy to which your comments relates. You can view a list of policies [here](#). If you wish to comment on one of the evidence documents or the policies maps, please state the document title as well as the paragraph or policy reference.

Document / Policy / Paragraph: SODC plan STRAT 9

Q55. Do you consider the Local Plan and supporting documents:

	Yes	No	Don't know	Not answered (OPTION HIDDEN FROM LIVE SURVEY)
are legally compliant?		X		
are sound?		X		
comply with the Duty to Co-operate?		X		

Q56. Please provide further information in relation to the previous question. e.g. why you do or do not consider the Local Plan to be legally compliant or sound.

Why are you building on Green Belt? I thought this was protected?

Q57. Please set out any modifications you consider necessary to make the Local Plan legally compliant or sound, having regard to your comments above. (NB - any non-compliance with the duty to co-operate is incapable of modification at examination). It will be helpful if you could put forward your suggested wording of any policy or text as precisely as possible.

Remove STRAT 9

Q59. Would you like to participate at the oral part of the examination, which takes place as part of the examination process?

No

Q60. Would you like to comment on another policy or paragraph?

No