

# 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	Mr
Full name	David Cooper
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: 1.6

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.

I believe that the submitted version of the Local Plan is not legally compliant, as the consultation process for the latest version (following rejection of the earlier "Final" Publication Version) has not been adequate. No comments from the public have been solicited to help reshape the document and, indeed, nor have Councillors outside the Cabinet. To present a fait accompli is not acceptable and incompatible with the Council's Consultation Strategy.

Q8. 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.

The Council should withdraw this version and have a round of public consultation before resubmission for inspection.

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: STRAT2

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.

The estimate of housing requirements are much higher than can be justified. New methodology has been introduced by the government to estimate housing need, which would reduce substantially the South Oxfordshire Housing Requirement. In addition, Oxford City Council has reassessed its own housing need, thereby making the figure of 4,950 from this source largely redundant.

Q15. 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.

The figures in STRAT2 should be recalculated in accordance with up to date Government guidance and in the light of Oxford City Council's more up to date assessment.

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:** 5.11. Please see also comments on STRAT2.

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.

The justification for increasing the target number of houses to be built (itself an inflated figure - see comments on STRAT2) by almost 6,000 is not justified by any evidence. Such a large number of houses is incompatible with STRAT1, particularly "Protecting and enhancing the countryside" and "Support and enhance our historic environment".

Q22. 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.

The target number of new homes should be revised to match a (reduced) housing requirement.

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: STRAT6

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.

The justification for removing six pieces of the Green Belt is very weak and does not meet the NPPF requirement of "very special circumstances".  
The Grenoble Road, Northfield and Bayswater Brook sites specifically violate the intentions of the Green Belt in preventing urban sprawl.

Q29. 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.

The necessity for removing each piece of Green Belt should be re-evaluated in the light of a reduced housing requirement (see comments on STRAT2 & Para 5.1). Those sites adjoining Oxford may well prove unnecessary in the light of a reduced requirement to accommodate the City's unmet need.

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: STRAT9 - 14

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.

"Appropriate landscaping" is hardly a way to ensure a "permanent defensible landscaped edge" that the Plan is already proposing in a cavalier fashion to remove from an area that is already supposedly permanent.

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.

If land is to be removed from the Green belt, then a proper justification for its removal must be provided. Further, more specific measures to ensure that this is not part of a creeping nibbling away of the Oxford Green Belt generally must be described.

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: STRAT7

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.

Although the only site not in the Green Belt, this proposed site is particularly inappropriate. Chalgrove is remote from any major employment locations. The proposed increase in employment land of 5 ha, will support around 1800 jobs (based on 12,403 jobs on between 33.2 and 35.9 ha land quoted in Paras 4.36 & 4.37), which is clearly inadequate for 3000 houses. Road links to Oxford (the most likely employment destination) are very poor and unlikely to be capable of being improved sufficiently to accommodate the likely increase in traffic. Public transport is limited to one bus service. Even with increased bus frequencies, the clogging of roads by car-based traffic is likely to make journey times excessive and the carbon footprint of the settlement will be very high. No alternative public transport modes are practical. The site is almost certainly undeliverable in view of the opposition by Martin-Baker (Engineering) Ltd., one of Britain's most important exporters. Noise from their operations is likely to make their business at Chalgrove unviable in the face of complaints from residents. Even with the provision of bypasses for Cuxham, Stadhampton, Chiselhampton, Benson and Watlington the effect of increased traffic on several smaller villages, including Ewelme, Brightwell Baldwin and Upperton, is likely to be excessive. Road improvements to accommodate the increase in traffic generated will destroy the rural character of several rural lanes and impact badly on those that are not improved.

Q43. 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.

Chalgrove airfield should be removed from the list of strategic sites.

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:** TRANS2

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.

Although the Plan has warm words about promoting sustainable modes of transport, it is woefully inadequate in proposing specific measures to achieve the objectives.  
 A set of segregated walking and cycling routes between nearby settlements (Paras 1(iv) and 1(vi) of this strategy) would encourage these modes of transport, with concomitant health benefits and reduction in road congestion, as well as promoting their leisure use.  
 As it stands, the strategy appears to accept that private car use will increase more or less in line with the increase in population, with public transport, cycling and walking making a negligible contribution to transport needs. The Plan shows a lamentable lack of ambition in promoting modal shift.

Q50. 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.

The strategy should be strengthened to incorporate planned segregated walking and cycling routes within and between settlements, as well as identifying funding sources for these, along with those for public transport.  
 There should be active discouragement of car use by, for instance, more use of rising bollards to allow buses, but not cars, to access areas; limitation of parking opportunities, and bus lanes.

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?

No

## Page 106: Future contact preferences

Q354. As explained in our data protection statement, in line with statutory regulations you will be contacted by the programme officer (and where necessary the council) with relevant updates on the Local Plan. South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils have a shared planning policy database. If you would like to be added to our database to receive updates on other planning policy consultations, please tick the relevant district box(es) below:

I would like to be added to the database to receive planning policy updates for South Oxfordshire



