

South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2034

Publication Version Representation Form

Please return by 5pm on Monday 18 February 2019 to: Planning Policy, South Oxfordshire District Council, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Milton, Abingdon, OX14 4SB or email it to planning.policy@southoxon.gov.uk

This form has two parts:

Part A – contact details

Part B – your comments / participation at oral examination

Part A

Are you responding as an: (please tick)

Agent

Business or organisation

Individual

Due to the plan-making process including an independent examination, a name and contact details are required for your comments to be considered. If you are acting on behalf of another organisation, please provide their details in column one and your company name and contact details in column two.

	1. Personal Details	2. Agent Details (if applicable)
Title	<input type="text" value="Mrs"/>	<input type="text"/>
Full Name	<input type="text" value="R Crockett"/>	<input type="text"/>
Job Title (where relevant)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Organisation (where relevant)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Address Line 1	<input type="text" value="██████████"/>	<input type="text"/>
Address Line 2	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Address Line 3	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Postal Town	<input type="text" value="██████"/>	<input type="text"/>
Postcode	<input type="text" value="██████████"/>	<input type="text"/>
Telephone Number	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Email Address	<input type="text" value="████████████████████"/>	<input type="text"/>

Part B – Please use a separate sheet for each representation

For comments on the Local Plan, please provide the paragraph or policy to which your comments relate.

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:

CF1 – Safeguarding Community Facilities.

Do you consider the Local Plan and supporting documents:

(1) are legally compliant

Yes

No

Don't know

(2) are sound

Yes

No

Don't know

(3) comply with the Duty to Cooperate

Yes

No

Don't know

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.

CF1 – Safeguarding Community Facilities

This policy fails to recognise the legal status of Public Rights of Way and does not comply with NPPF2 Para 98: “Planning policies and decisions should protect and enhance public rights of way and access, including taking opportunities to provide better facilities for users, for example by adding links to existing rights of way networks including National Trails.”

Local plan 2011 saved Policy R8 recognises the importance of rights of way “not only as pedestrian routes, but because they provide opportunities for people to enjoy quiet, open countryside.” and “any diversion must provide safe, attractive and convenient alternative”. Saved Policy R8 also recognised the importance of national & local rights of way that run through the district and the National Cycle network and encouraged any new developments to link in to current rights of way networks and the importance of these routes as ways to encourage sustainable methods of transport.

The mention of public rights of way is added as an after-thought, to the last paragraph of this policy and I feel could be misinterpreted to mean that historic/ancient Rights of Way could be lost or re-routed with little regard and their amenity value lost. A re-routed public right of way along a tarmac footway through a development is not the same as a footpath/bridleway across an open field, or alongside a hedgerow.

(Continue on page 4 if necessary)

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.

I'm not sure that this policy is the place for rights of way to be tagged on to, but if it must then the wording must be changed to include the historic and landscape value of the public rights of way. Public rights of way are also "essential" because of their historic and landscape value.

And it must be made clear that this policy also protects public rights of way for the reasons above.

Vale of White Horse Local Plan Part 2 ¹ section 3 – Building Healthy & Sustainable Communities recognises the importance of Public Rights of Way, National Trails and designated Open Access Areas, and includes a specific policy Development Policy 31 which states

“Development on and / or over public rights of way will be permitted where the development can be designed to accommodate satisfactorily the existing route, or where the right of way is incorporated into the development site as an attractive, safe and continuous route. Alternative routes will need to be made equally or more attractive, safe and convenient to rights of way users. The Council will actively seek opportunities to improve the accessibility and the addition of new connections and status upgrades to the existing rights of way network, including National Trails. Proposals of this nature will be supported where they would not lead to increased pressure on sensitive sites, such as those of important ecological value. Development will not be permitted where proposals remove, narrow or materially impair the approved line of the Thames Path or Ridgeway National Trails, key connecting routes, and / or public access to them) to ensure their protection.

I would like to see something similar in this local plan.

¹ <http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/sites/default/files/Lo-res%20Local%20Plan%202031%20Part%202.pdf>

(Continue on page 4 if necessary)

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

Yes

No

* **Please note:** the inspector will determine the most appropriate procedure to hear those who have indicated that they wish to participate at the public hearing.

Signature:

(this can be electronic)

Date:

15 Feb 2019

Sharing your personal details

All comments will be submitted in full to the Secretary of State alongside a submission version of the Local Plan. The Secretary of State will appoint an independent planning inspector, who will carry out an examination of the plan.

Your name, contact details and comments will also be shared with the planning inspector and a programme officer, who will act as a point of contact between the council, inspector and respondents. This means that you will be contacted by the programme officer (and where necessary the council) with updates on the Local Plan. This is required by Regulation 22 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 and Section 20 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

We have received assurance that the data passed to the planning inspector and programme officer will be kept securely and not used for any other purpose. The inspector and programme officer will retain the data up to six months after the plan has been adopted. South Oxfordshire District Council will hold the data for six years after the plan has been adopted.

Comments submitted by individuals will be published on our website alongside their name only. No other contact details will be published. Comments submitted by businesses and/or organisations will be published on our website including contact details. If you would like to know more about how we use and store your data, please visit www.southoxon.gov.uk/dataprotection

Future contact preferences

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):

- I would like to be added to the database to receive planning policy updates for South Oxfordshire
- I would also like to be added to the database to receive planning policy updates for Vale of White Horse

Further comment: Please use this space to provide further comment on the relevant questions in this form. **You must state which question your comment relates to.**

Alternative formats of this form are available on request. Please email planning.policy@southoxon.gov.uk or call 01235 422600 (Text phone users add 18001 before you dial).

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