

South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2034

Page 3: Part A - contact details

Q1. Are you responding as an:

Business / Organisation

Page 6: Business / organisation contact details

Q4. Due to the plan-making process including an independent examination, a name and means of contact is required for your comments to be considered:

Business / organisation name Dorchester on Thames Parish Council

Contact name Geoffrey Russell

Address line 1

Address line 2

Address line 3

Postal town

Postcode

Telephone number

Email address

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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: STRAT8

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	

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

Yes

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

Yes

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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: STRAT6

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	

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

Yes

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

Yes

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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: 1. Section 5 DELIVERING NEW HOMES 5.11 TABLE 5c

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.

We consider the numbers of new homes in the plan to be excessive. The total, which is approaching 30,000 homes, is far in excess of those necessary for organic growth provided in official Government figures which are closer to 10,000. While this council accepts that there should be some contingency above 10,000 to allow for any shortfall in build out we believe that 10-20% would be a more appropriate headroom than 200%. In addition an uplift of an additional 30,000 homes would represent an increase of nearly 50% over the current housing stock for the whole district. This would have a profound and lasting effect on the rural nature of the district never witnessed before.

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.

A reduction in housing numbers that will reflect the natural/organic growth within the district instead of an accelerated growth projection described in the Plan

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

Yes

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

Yes

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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: Section 4 Green Belt 4.58 Policy STRAT 6 to 14

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.

We object to the number of sites that have been selected that are within the Green Belt. All 7 of the Strategic Allocation sites except one are within the Green Belt. We believe that this would set an unwelcome precedent and a signal to abandon the policy of protection for the Green Belt in the future. Instead of utilising Green Belt as a last resort this plan signals its use as a first resort. STRAT 11 In particular the selection of Grenoble Road as a Strategic Allocation site negates the objectives stated in 4.58 to "check the sprawl of large built up areas" (as this represents sprawl from Oxford city.) While this may help to "preserve the setting and special character of historic towns such as Oxford" it is at the expense of villages close to these developments such as Garsington. It also negates the objective to "assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment".

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.

A thorough review of the designated sites earmarked for Housing is required to remove those currently in the Green Belt. This task will be more easily attained if the overall Housing numbers are reduced. A determination to build on more brownfield sites and to bring back into use derelict and abandoned properties.

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

Yes

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

Yes

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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:

3. ransport Infrastructure including Public Transport Section 7 INFRASTRUCTURE,

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.

Although there are some road infrastructure plans adjacent to areas proposed for housing development these are fragmented and localised to the area of housing development. There has been no attempt to create an integrated transport plan for the whole district. This would not be relevant if there was a county or region wide integrated transport policy in place to resolve the anticipated additional road traffic that will be generated by the additional homes and offices. It is appreciated that road traffic flows are difficult to predict due to the uncertain nature of where residents will work, shop and use their leisure time, but there is a lack of confidence that sufficient monies will be made available to make good the inevitable road congestion generated by nearly 30,000 additional homes in this District alone as well as increasing numbers in adjacent Districts. The lack of investment in road transport over recent years has endorsed this feeling. Added to this there is the unknown transport impact on the area of the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway, a new road bridge at Culham, Didcot Garden Town and a new A329 road bridge at Caversham. The lack of bus services in rural areas has also led to an increased dependency on motor transport.

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.

A fully funded County or Regional Integrated Transport Policy incorporating Road, rail, and Public services including Rapid Transit to and within large towns and cities (Oxford and Reading)

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

Yes

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

No

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