

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	Robert William Heath-Whyte
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	

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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: Policy STRAT 1 – The overall Strategy

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 support the Overall Strategy in that it, in para 4.14, "recognises the rural nature of our District and the importance of our rural settlements in contributing to what makes South Oxfordshire such a beautiful and prosperous place to live". I do not support the inclusion of Chalgrove in the list of Strategic Allocations.

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.

- Providing strategic allocations at Grenoble Road, Culham, Berinsfield, Wheatley, Northfield, and North of Bayswater Brook including necessary infrastructure and community facilities;

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

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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: Policy STRAT 4 – Strategic Development

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.

Whilst I support the strategy, particularly with regards to the provision of suitable infrastructure, the current plans are to reduce the infrastructure for Chalgrove, not improve it.
See my comments on STRAT 7.

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.

Simply remove Chalgrove as a Strategic site from the Local Plan 2034

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

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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: Policy STRAT 6 – The Green Belt

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 existing Green Belt was defined 27 years ago in 1992, at a time when no-one could accurately forecast the future housing needs of the city of Oxford. Since then a number of Science Parks and their associated industries have sprung up around the city, creating the current urgent need for housing to accommodate those who work in Oxford. I am encouraged to see that the SODC Green Belt strategy agrees with the City plans for strategic housing sites at the edge of the city in areas formerly allocated to the Green Belt, the obvious and most sensible sites for such housing, which are well served by infrastructure and public transport.

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.

Remove Chalgrove from the list of Strategic sites

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

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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: Policy STRAT 7 – Land at Chalgrove Airfield.

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.

I am totally against Policy Strat 7 for several reasons.

The SODC Objective 1.2 is to "Support rural communities and 'their way of life', recognising that this is what attracts people to the district." Similarly, Objective 5.2 is to "Support development that respects the scale and character of our towns and villages, enhancing the special character of our historic settlements and the surrounding countryside."

However, the development of 2,200 houses on Chalgrove Airfield will completely ruin the community and way of life of Chalgrove by changing it from a village to a town. So STRAT 7 is in contradiction to Objectives 1.2 and 5.2

Objective 4.1, "Ensure that essential infrastructure is delivered to support our existing residents and services as well as growth," and Objective 4.2, "Make sustainable transport, walking and cycling an attractive and viable choice for people, whilst recognising that car travel and parking provision

will continue to be important in this predominantly rural District", are not borne out by the infrastructure plans identified. Chalgrove is served by one minor road, the B480, which is known locally as "the by-pass" because all HGVs and other through traffic can proceed along it without having to enter the village. The plan shown at para 4.68 shows that the B480 will be diverted to pass through the 'local centre' of the airfield development. As a result, HGVs will either have to do just that or take a diversion along the existing High Street of Chalgrove causing traffic chaos and pollution in both cases. And yet SODC plan to build by-passes for Watlington and Stadhampton, at the same time as they plan to close Chalgrove's by-pass.

The Department of Transport General Aviation Strategy published in March 2015 states that "The Government's vision is of the UK being the best country in the world for GA as a flourishing, wealth generating and job producing sector of the UK economy."

The NPPF July 2018 states at para 104 that "Planning policies should f) recognise the importance of maintaining a national network of general aviation airfields, and their need to adapt and change over time - taking into account their economic value in serving business, leisure, training and emergency service needs, and the Government's General Aviation Strategy."

Chalgrove Airfield is the home of Martin Baker Aircraft Company Limited, the world leading manufacturer of aircraft ejection seats and safety systems, which is a essential part of the UK Defence industry, and, because of the importance of its products to the aircraft of the Royal Air Force, is a vital component of the Defence of the UK. It is certainly also 'wealth generating' and in the year ended 31 March 2018 the company took £296.5 million of orders. It should also be noted that they regularly use pyrotechnics, which the safety precautions for which prohibit the development of buildings within the airfield area. As stated in STRAT 7, Martin Baker do not wish to move or have their operations at Chalgrove Airfield curtailed in any way.

The airfield is also used regularly by Thames Valley Police for training of their Police Dog units, and for the transit by air of vital human blood and tissues for transplants at the Oxford hospitals.

SODC have failed to take any of this into consideration in pressing ahead with their plan to make the airfield a 'Strategic site' for their Local Plan, in contradiction of the Governments General Aviation Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework, as quoted above.

Policy STRAT 7, contravenes the SODC's own objectives, the Governments General Aviation Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework, as well as common sense and should be removed from the SODC Local Plan 2034.

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.

Delete STRAT 7 from the SODC Local Plan 2034

Q30. Please upload any supporting documents below:

- File: General_Aviation_Strategy March 2015.pdf - [Download](#)
- File: National_Planning_Policy_Framework_print_version jul2018.pdf - [Download](#)

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?

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