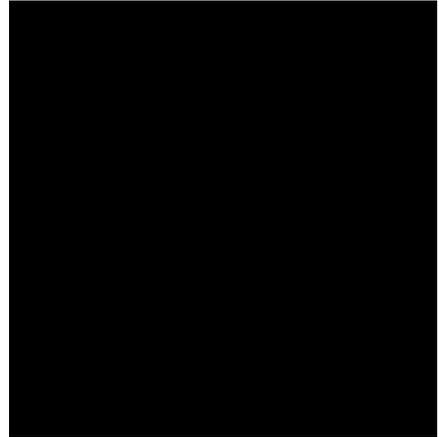


Mrs. Sally L. Humphrey



SODC Planning Policy  
[planning.policy@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@southoxon.gov.uk)

**Individual Response to SODC Planning about the Local Plan 2034  
with reference to STRAT 12 Northfield**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am responding to the inclusion of the Northfield site in the Local Plan 2034 because I have never been consulted about this in any earlier stage in the development of this Local Plan.

I cannot believe it is even being considered to propose any development in the Oxford Green Belt area. This has been preserved explicitly to keep the population of Oxford city and the surrounding area healthy and active. The Green Belt gives people access to footpaths and all the benefits of outdoor activities. It is vital for the well-being of the whole population but especially for young families who may find it difficult to access the outdoors. It must be preserved at all costs!

I do not find the Local Plan 2034 legally compliant, sound, justified or positively prepared. No "exceptional circumstances" exist for removing the Northfield site from the Green Belt. Large areas of the Northfield site are too frequently flooded with surface water to be used for housing and the building of Northfield in the Green Belt land is in conflict with SODC's Policy "STRAT6: Green Belt" in the Plan. Building on the Northfield site in the Green Belt conflicts with the National Planning Framework, Paras. 133-137. Removing the Northfield site from the Green Belt and allowing development would increase noise, air pollution, light pollution at night and immensly increase traffic congestion in this already heavily congested area.

The decision by SODC to voluntarily provide more houses than the total needed in South Oxfordshire when calculated by the Objectively Assessed Need process cannot constitute an "exceptional circumstance" for justifying legally removing the Northfield site from the Green Belt in order to build housing on it. The true extent of Oxford City's unmet housing need is unconfirmed until the new Oxford City Local Plan 2036 has been examined and this need is confirmed. The City's undoubted housing need could be met within the city by building at higher densities and using more employment land for housing.

There has been no meaningful or adequate public consultation provided by SODC to test the acceptability of its major change in strategy to promote 6 strategic housing sites in the Green Belt, which is a major change in the District`s housing policy from the South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2011-2033 published in 2017, and such a major change requires further meaningful public consultation – which SODC has not provided, so this new Local Plan 2034 is unlawful.

I would like to be added to the data base for receiving further information about Local Plan 2034. Please acknowledge that you have received my response to Local Plan 2034.

In anticipation of your reply,  
Regards,

Sally L. Humphrey