

# West Berkshire Local Plan Review 2022-2039

Proposed Submission Representation Form

Ref:

(For official use only)

| Please                  | Online: http://consult.westberks.gov.uk/kse  |
|-------------------------|--|
| complete<br>online or   | By email: planningpolicy@westberks.gov.uk  |
| return this<br>form to: | <b>By post:</b> Planning Policy, Development and Regulation, Council Offices, Market Street, Newbury, RG14 5LD |
| Return by:              | 4:30pm on Friday 3 March 2023  |

This form has two parts:

- Part A Your details: need only be completed once
- Part B Your representation(s): please fill in a separate sheet for each representation you wish to make

## PART A: Your Details

Please note the following:

- We cannot register your representation without your details.
- Representations cannot be kept confidential and will be available for public scrutiny, however, your contact details will not be published.
- All information will be sent for examination by an independent inspector
- All personal data will be handled in line with the Council's Privacy Policy on the Development Plan. You can view the Council's privacy notices at http://info.westberks.gov.uk/privacynotices

|   | Your details | Agent's details (if applicable) |
|---|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Title:                                  | Dr           |                                 |
| First Name:*                            | David        |                                 |
| Last Name:*                             | Edwards-Moss |                                 |
| Job title<br>(where relevant):          |              |                                 |
| Organisation<br>(where relevant):       |              |                                 |
| Address*<br>Please include<br>postcode: |              |                                 |
| Email address:*                         |              |                                 |
| Telephone number:                       |              |                                 |

## Part B – Your Representation

#### Please use a separate sheet for each representation

The accompanying guidance note available at: https://www.westberks.gov.uk/lpr-proposedsubmission-consultation will assist you in making representations.

Your representation should cover succinctly all the information, evidence and supporting information necessary to support/justify the representation and the suggested change(s) as there will **not normally** be a subsequent opportunity to make further representations, **further submissions will ONLY** be at the request of the Inspector, based on the matters and issues they identify for examination.

| Your name or<br>organisation (and<br>client if you are an<br>agent): |  |
|--|--|
|--|--|

### Please indicate which part of the Local Plan Review this representation relates to:

| Section/paragraph: |                                 |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Policy:            | WBC LPR Regulation 19 Objection |
| Appendix:          |                                 |
| Policies Map:      |                                 |
| Other:             |                                 |

#### 1. Legally Compliant

Please see the guidance notes for an explanation of what 'legally compliant' means.

No

#### Do you consider the Local Plan Review is legally compliant?

Yes

Please give reasons for your answer:

## 2. Soundness

Please see the guidance notes for an explanation of what 'soundness' means.

### Do you consider the Local Plan Review is sound?

The soundness of the LPR should be assessed against the following criteria from the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

#### Please tick all that apply:

| NPPF criteria   | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|
| <b>Positively Prepared:</b> The plan provides a strategy which, as a minimum, seeks to meet the area's objectively assessed need and is informed by agreements with other authorities, so that unmet need from neighbouring areas is accommodated where practical to do so and is consistent with achieving sustainable development |     | x  |
| <b>Justified:</b> the plan is an appropriate strategy, taking into account the reasonable alternatives, and based on proportionate evidence   |     | X  |
| <b>Effective:</b> the plan is deliverable over the plan period and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic matters that have been dealt with rather than deferred, as evidenced by the statement of common ground  |     | X  |
| <b>Consistent with national policy:</b> the plan should enable the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies of the NPPF  |     | x  |

#### Please give reasons for your answer:

On 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022 Mr Michael Gove Secretary of State for Levelling up, Housing & Communities suggested housing numbers should be considered as advisory and not mandatory as previously directed.

I also consider further large scale housing developments in the South East of UK wont assist the "levelling up" for the country as a whole. Thatcham has had a massive increase in population over the past 50 years and one the last big developments at Dunstan Park caused a large strain on GP services in the area. The Two practices in Thatcham closed their new patient registrations and this meant that Chapel Row Surgery had to take on a lot more patients from Thatcham itself. Thankfully we had a new surgery built in 1992 but in 2004 a new extension with 4 more consulting rooms was added and a new car park area was added shortly after. We also took on another GP to cover the increasing population.

In the plan I note there is provision for a new primary care centre, but nationally the NHS is around 40,000 nurses, and I believe 10,000 doctors below the recommended staffing level. I also believe that there is already a shortage of GPs in West Berkshire and so recruitment of new staff is becoming increasingly difficult.

I note all the proposed routes for walkers/cyclists, and as a regular cyclist myself, I am pleased to see the plans in this area.

However the main vehicle routes for north south from Thatcham, apart from congesting the A4 at the Robin hood Roundabout still further, are also totally inadequate.

Going south, without going on A4 to Newbury, past Thatcham train station has been a bottle neck for years. Going north to join the M4/A34 to Oxford again without going to the A4 in Newbury means vehicles travel up through Cold Ash where due to "traffic calming" restrictions they currently cause grid lock at busy times.

Finally I am concerned about the loss of habitat to wildlife and for example I often cycle up the bridleway near Colthrop Manor and the sound of the sky larks is one of the few places I can enjoy listening to these precious birds.

## 3. Complies with the Duty to Co-operate

Please see the guidance note for an explanation of what 'Duty to Cooperate' means.

### Do you consider the Local Plan Review complies with the Duty to Co-operate?

No

Please give reasons for your answer:

4. Proposed Changes

Please set out what change(s) you consider necessary to make the Local Plan Review legally compliant or sound, having regard to the tests you have identified above (Please note that non-compliance with the duty to co-operate is incapable of modification at examination).

You will need to say why this change will make the LPR legally compliant or sound. It will be helpful if you are able to put forward your suggested revised wording of any policy or text. Please be as precise as possible.

### 5. Independent Examination

If your representation is seeking a change, do you consider it necessary to participate at the examination hearing session(s)?

Yes



If you wish to participate at the oral part of the examination, please outline why you consider this to be necessary:

Please note the Inspector will determine the most appropriate procedure to adopt to hear those who have indicated that they wish to participate at the oral part of the examination.

# 6. Notification of Progress of the Local Plan Review

## Do you wish to be notified of any of the following?

| Please tick all that apply:   | Tick |
|---|------|
| The submission of the Local Plan Review for Independent Examination                   |      |
| The publication of the report of the Inspector appointed to carry out the examination |      |
| The adoption of the Local Plan Review   |      |

Please ensure that we have either an up to date email address or postal address at which we can contact you. You can amend your contact details by logging onto your account on the Local Plan Consultation Portal or by contacting the Planning Policy team.

| Signature |  | Date | 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 |
|-----------|--|------|--------------------------------|
|-----------|--|------|--------------------------------|

Your completed representations must be received by the Council by 4:30pm on Friday 3 March 2023.