

Dear Beckley and Stowood Residents,

The South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) Local Plan has now been published and it is very concerning for all of us. The Plan retains all the strategic development sites in the previous version of the Plan and adds a number of sites in the Green Belt around Oxford, including Wick Farm and Lower Elsfield, now known as 'Land north of Bayswater Brook'. In addition to 1,100 new houses proposed for the Wick Farm site there is also a new road though the site starting at the junction of the Elsfield Road with the ring road and finishing either south (below) the crematorium onto the Bayswater or to go across more Green Belt land to the A40 between Sandhills and Wheatley.

There is a public consultation on this Plan and it is very important that as many people as possible send their views to SODC. **It closes on 18<sup>th</sup> February.**

Councillor John Walsh is getting together local Parish Councils and any interested local residents (especially those with specialist knowledge planning, planning law, ecology, flooding etc) so we can work together and provide everyone with evidence to oppose the Plan in the consultation. If anyone can help please contact Cllr John Walsh - [john.walsh@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:john.walsh@southoxon.gov.uk) or me Ginny Camps-Walsh on either [g.camps-walsh@beckley-and-stowood-pc.gov.uk](mailto:g.camps-walsh@beckley-and-stowood-pc.gov.uk) (PC e-mail address) or [camps.walsh@btinternet.com](mailto:camps.walsh@btinternet.com) (personal e-mail). You said in feedback in our Neighbourhood Plan consultation that you wanted to protect the Green Belt and did not want to be part of Oxford, but the SODC Local Plan endangers both aspirations.

SODC is running a series of local meetings to inform the public about the Local Plan. The nearest ones to us are -

- Wheatley, The Merry Bells Village Hall Monday 21 January, 3pm-7pm
- Oxsrade Sports and Leisure Centre, Marston Monday 11 February, 4pm-8pm

Please see their e-mail below with further details.

We will send you more information and evidence as soon as we can to help with the consultation and look forward to hearing from those who can help.

Kindest regards

Ginette Camps-Walsh  
Beckley and Stowood Parish Council

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## **South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2034 - have your say 7 January - 18 February 2019**

South Oxfordshire District Council has been working on a new Local Plan to shape the future of our district. Following extensive consultation and gathering of evidence, we have now prepared an updated Local Plan which we are ready to publish prior to this being submitted for independent examination.

You may be aware that in May 2018, councillors asked officers to reassess all main sites available for housing in the district. Since then, officers have been reassessing the main sites that were allocated in the last draft of the Local Plan, along with sites promoted to us and the sites that were previously considered but weren't taken forward. The outcome of this assessment has fed into this updated Local Plan.

Before we submit the plan for examination, we are carrying out a six-week publicity period. This is formally referred to as the "Regulation 19 publicity period". After the publicity period, we will submit the plan, evidence and responses received directly to the Secretary of State, who will appoint a Planning Inspector to carry out an independent examination.

You can download a briefing note that explains the key changes to the Local Plan [here](#).

At this stage, we have to ask you to respond to very specific questions. Partly based on the answers given, the inspector will make a decision on whether our Local Plan is "sound", "legally compliant" and if it complies with the "duty to cooperate". These terms are explained further in our [guidance note](#) and [YouTube video](#). The planning inspector will give more weight to comments that relate to these points, but you are free to comment on any aspect of the plan and evidence.

### Viewing the documents

You can view the Local Plan and supporting evidence on our [website](#). Hard copies of the key documents only are available during usual opening hours at:

- our council office at 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Abingdon, OX14 4SB - from 8.30am to 5pm Monday to Thursday, and 8.30am to 4.30pm Fridays
- all public libraries in South Oxfordshire during their usual opening hours
- Abbey House Abingdon, Abbey Sports Centre Berinsfield, Barton Leisure Centre, Chalgrove Post Office, Clifton Hampden Post Office, Cornerstone Didcot, via Culham Parish Council (contact Councillor Gibbs on 01235 523679 or email [grgibbs@btinternet.com](mailto:grgibbs@btinternet.com)), Didcot Wave Leisure Centre, Leys Pools and Leisure Centre (Blackbird Leys), the Holiday Inn Grenoble Road, Oxford City Council St Aldate's and the Talking Shop Café Sandford on Thames, all during their usual opening hours.

### Drop-in events

We are hosting a series of drop-in events across the district to help explain the process and how to submit your comments. **The drop-in events are not site specific and will all provide the same information, so you can attend any of the following:**

Didcot, Cornerstone Arts Centre	Thursday 17 January, 3pm–7pm
Henley Town Hall	Saturday 19 January, 10am–2pm

Wheatley, The Merry Bells Village Hall	Monday 21 January, 3pm-7pm
Culham Parochial School	Wednesday 23 January, 4pm-8pm
Sandford-on-Thames Village Hall	Thursday 24 January, 3pm-7pm
Berinsfield Church Hall	Tuesday 29 January, 3pm-7pm
Wallingford, Ridgeway Community Church	Saturday 2 February, 10am-2pm
Thame Town Hall	Tuesday 5 February, 10am-2pm
Chalgrove Village Hall	Thursday 7 February, 4pm-8pm
Horspath Community Hub	Saturday 9 February, 10am-2pm
Oxsrad Sports and Leisure Centre, Marston	Monday 11 February, 4pm-8pm

### Commenting on the plan

You need to provide comments using the prescribed form before **5pm on 18 February 2019**. Please be advised that we cannot accept late responses, nor grant any extensions. Responses can be made in one of the following ways:

- complete our online comment form <http://survey.southandvale.gov.uk/s/LocalPlan2034/>
- download a comment form from our [website](#) and email the completed version to [planning.policy@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@southoxon.gov.uk);
- collect a comment form from one of the locations listed above and post to Planning Policy, SODC, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Abingdon, OX14 4SB; or
- attend one of our drop-in events.

Thank you in advance for your participation and we hope to see you at one of our drop-in events. If you have any questions, please contact the planning policy team on 01235 422600 or email [planning.policy@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@southoxon.gov.uk)

Kind regards

Adrian Duffield  
Head of Planning