### Statement of Common Ground between Oxford City Council and Oxfordshire County Council

## Submission Draft (Regulation 19) Oxford Local Plan 2040

#### March 2024

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared by Oxford City Council and Oxfordshire County Council for the Oxford Local Plan 2040. This SoCG reflects and confirms current positions on matters agreed by both parties with regard to the Duty to Cooperate.
- 1.2 Oxford City Council is producing a new Local Plan covering the period to 2040. The SoCG reflects the latest position agreed by the parties and is provided without prejudice to other matters that the parties may wish to raise.
- 1.3 The area covered by this Statement is Oxford, which is the area covered by the Local Plan. The matters in this Statement are however cross-boundary and other SoCGs have been prepared on cross boundary matters with other authorities.

### 2. Background

- 2.1 Oxford City Council and Oxfordshire County Council have been working closely together on matters of strategic cross boundary importance. The Councils are members of the Future Oxfordshire Partnership (FOP).
- 2.2 Up until August 2022 the six local authorities in Oxfordshire (Cherwell District Council, Oxford City Council, South Oxfordshire District Council, Vale of White Horse District Council, West Oxfordshire District Council and Oxfordshire County Council) were collaborating on a strategic joint Oxfordshire Plan 2050 with a supporting Oxfordshire-wide evidence base including housing and employment needs in the form of the Oxfordshire Growth Needs Assessment (OGNA). That process has now ended, and the local planning authorities are instead preparing individual local plans and are working together via the Duty to Cooperate.

# 3. Duty to cooperate

3.1 There are a large number of areas that require cooperation between the two parties. Oxfordshire County Council is Highways Authority for the area. The County Council is also the Lead Local Flood Authority, the Education Authority, the Minerals & Waste Planning Authority, and has lead roles in other areas such as Public Health and Social Care. Discussions have continued between the two councils for the duration of the preparation of the plan, including sharing drafts of policies, making changes and discussing areas of difference. There has also been some joint working, in particular on transport modelling.

3.2 The position of the two councils in relation to relevant strategic matters is outlined below.

# 4. Strategic Matters

### **Housing needs**

## Overall number of homes needed in the area

4.1 The County Council is not currently satisfied that exceptional circumstances have been demonstrated to justify the Local Plan's alternative to using the Standard Method as its housing requirement, or that the HENA provides an appropriate assessment of need in Oxford. The County Council considers this should form a key part of the examination of the plan as set out in Appendix 1 in relation to Policy H1.

### Specialist accommodation needs

4.2 The County Council addresses specialist housing as part of its social care responsibilities. The County Council is working to update its market position statements. In the Districts, the County Council is asking for a requirement in those Local Plans to provide an affordable extra care housing development of at least 60 units as part of the affordable housing component of very large sites. However, both parties agree that there are no proposed allocations in Oxford City where such a requirement would be suitable, as sites are smaller. The County Council anticipates some extra care housing being delivered at a small number of sites in adjacent Districts to meet the City's need e.g. at Bayswater Brook. The County Council has a concern that a reduced affordable housing threshold would make it harder to get affordable specialist housing provided on these sites. The County Council's comments and City Council's response in relation to Policy H2 are outlined in Appendix 1.

### **Economic needs**

### Jobs needed in the area

4.3 The County Council does not disagree with the general approach of Policy E1, which is to categorise sites and to allow housing to a greater or lesser extent on all of them. The County Council raised some detailed points relating to Policy E1, which are outlined in Appendix 1, with a City Council response.

# Provision of retail, leisure and other commercial development

- 4.4 There are no unresolved issues relating to this topic. Oxford city centre plays an important sub-regional role and co-operation with neighbouring authorities is essential as current and future populations will not shop exclusively in their own areas, but will travel to others.
- 4.5 The matter does also affect the duties of the County Council in terms of how it relates to generation of transport need. The overall spatial strategy and levels of parking are fundamental to managing these impacts and are discussed below.

### Infrastructure needs

## Provision of infrastructure for transport

- 4.6 Oxfordshire County Council is the highways authority responsible for producing the Local Transport Plan. Discussions have centred around how the Local Plan and the County Council's Local Transport and Connectivity Plan align, what the impacts of the Local Plan's proposals will be on the road network, what modelling is needed to establish that, and the Plan's approach to parking, travel plans and transport strategy. The City and County Councils jointly commissioned transport modelling work. As a result of this joint commission between Oxford City Council and Oxfordshire County Council, there is an 'HRA Screening Addendum Air Quality' dated November 2023, which identifies the transport effects of development in relation to the Special Area of Conservation.
- 4.7 City Council officers have continued to engage with County Council officers who provided some comments on draft policies and site allocations in relation to transport and access before publication in 2023. Both parties are committed to continuing to work in collaboration to identify infrastructure requirements to support allocated developmentsites. Some comments are summarised and responded to in Appendix 1 of this SOCG in relation to Policies S3, C7, C8, C9, SPS2, SPS3, SPS7, SPS12, SPE4, SPE20, NCCAOF, SPCW8, and Appendix 7 of the draft Local Plan.

## Provision of health infrastructure and local facilities

- 4.8 Oxfordshire County Council has public health responsibilities. The County Council has set out concerns about the Health Impact Assessment carried out to support the Local Plan and have said they are not sure it would stand up to scrutiny at examination. Appendix 1 summarises the comments made on the Health Impact Assessment and the City Council's response.
- 4.9 The County Council's response indicated that having no policy restricting hot food takeaways does not address the evidence and a key health priority for the city in respect of obesity. The comments on this omission are summarised in Appendix 1 and the City Council's response is set out.
- 4.10 The County Council is supportive of policies the protect and promote local facilities, although they have made some detailed comments on some of the policies, set out in Appendix 1 in relation to Policies C3 and C4.
- 4.11 The County Council has not raised issues with the soundness of the Plan regarding meeting educational needs. Both parties agree that the County Council has been able to review the information on growth expectations across the city and discussions have been ongoing about any school place needs and how to meet them.

#### **Environment Issues**

Climate change mitigation and adaptation including flood risk

4.12 Oxfordshire County Council as lead local flood authority has included some detailed queries around flood risk in their representation, as outlined in Appendix 1 in relation Policies G7 and G8. The County Council also has a climate action team and broadly supports Policies R1 and R2 about net zero buildings in operation and demonstration of the consideration of embodied carbon in the construction process. In respect of innovation, the County Council has sought that there be additional policy provision in the Local Plan, as outlined in Appendix 1 in relation to Policy S2.

## Conservation and enhancement of the natural and historic environment, including landscape

4.13 The County Council has an environment team and provided some detailed points around biodiversity and green infrastructure, set out in Appendix 1 in relation to Policies G1, G2, G3 and G4. It was noted that the County Council is working to produce a Local Nature Recovery Strategy in 2025 and that policies should be updated having regard to the latest legislation and guidance.

## Signed on behalf of Oxfordshire County Council



**Nicholas Perrins** 

**Head of Strategic Planning** 

Date: 27 March 2024

Signed on behalf of Oxford City Council



**David Butler** 

**Head of Planning and Regulatory Services** 

Date: 27 March 2024

Appendix 1: Detailed comments and responses

Policy/ Para	Summary of County Council's representation	City Council response	Change proposed	County Council further response
S1	The County Council's key interests in the spatial strategy were set out in the response on the Preferred Options in November 2022 and were repeated in this response. This response does not provide requested modifications to these introductory parts as it was not identified that such is needed to make the plan sound. The overall spatial strategy policy and its accompanying text are largely supported.			N/A
S2	requirement to protect existing trees and hedgerows.  Text supporting Policy S2 should reference the Innovation Framework which is	paragraph 1.41 of the supporting text says that this includes green features. The need to consider protection of existing trees and green features is already referred to several times in the design guide Appendix 1.1.	This means encouraging a range of	Innovation Framework is appreciated, along with the proposed modification. Status: Green

ipdates and corrections on transport chemes for the IDP as information becomes available.  Additional text is needed to make it clear hat Oxford Railway Station should be a blace where the public realm is prioritised.  Amended text is also needed to allow for contributions from developments taking blace more than 1,500m away from CBL tations where justified, and after the line	enhancements at Oxford Railway Station. In relation to the CBL, do not agree with changing 'development within a 1,500m buffer zone' to 'development in the areas around the proposed CBL stations'. The buffer zone area has previously been identified in conjunction	transport with a new entrance on the west, additional secure cycle storage, cycle racks, new bus interchange facilities and new priority public areas. Enhancements to public transport accessibility in the south east of the city are needed to support the anticipated intensification of existing	Discussions are ongoing
Additional text is needed to make it clear hat Oxford Railway Station should be a place where the public realm is prioritised.  Amended text is also needed to allow for contributions from developments taking place more than 1,500m away from CBL	Station. In relation to the CBL, do not agree with changing 'development within a 1,500m buffer zone' to 'development in the areas around the proposed CBL stations'. The buffer zone area has previously been identified in conjunction	the west, additional secure cycle storage, cycle racks, new bus interchange facilities and new priority public areas. Enhancements to public transport accessibility in the south east of the city are needed to support the anticipated intensification of existing	Status: Green  Discussions are ongoing about contributions to be taken for the Cowley Branch Line. We are content with
Additional text is needed to make it clear hat Oxford Railway Station should be a place where the public realm is prioritised.  Amended text is also needed to allow for contributions from developments taking place more than 1,500m away from CBL	In relation to the CBL, do not agree with changing 'development within a 1,500m buffer zone' to 'development in the areas around the proposed CBL stations'. The buffer zone area has previously been identified in conjunction	storage, cycle racks, new bus interchange facilities and new priority public areas. Enhancements to public transport accessibility in the south east of the city are needed to support the anticipated intensification of existing	Discussions are ongoing about contributions to be taken for the Cowley Branch Line. We are content with
hat Oxford Railway Station should be a place where the public realm is prioritised.  Amended text is also needed to allow for contributions from developments taking place more than 1,500m away from CBL	'development within a 1,500m buffer zone' to 'development in the areas around the proposed CBL stations'. The buffer zone area has previously been identified in conjunction	priority public areas. Enhancements to public transport accessibility in the south east of the city are needed to support the anticipated intensification of existing	Discussions are ongoing about contributions to be taken for the Cowley Branch Line. We are content with
Amended text is also needed to allow for ontributions from developments taking place more than 1,500m away from CBL	buffer zone' to 'development in the areas around the proposed CBL stations'. The buffer zone area has previously been identified in conjunction	to public transport accessibility in the south east of the city are needed to support the anticipated intensification of existing	Discussions are ongoing about contributions to be taken for the Cowley Branch Line. We are content with
opens as it will be necessary to claw back orward funding.	offers a lot more certainty about what is expected from developers. It underlies the approach to the site allocation policies in Chapter 8 of the Local Plan.	residential development. Supporting existing public transport and the reopening of the CBL to passengers would enable a reduction in car use to this area. Financial contributions from new trip-generating development within a 1,500m buffer zone of the proposed CBL stations will be expected in order to achieve public transport enhancements in this area, including, among other sustainable transport measures, the	the approach as drafted. The County Council will assist with any queries on this matter. Status: Amber
he approach of looking at carbon offsetting		-	The explanation is
	_		appreciated.
irst is not in line with the County Council's			We note the intention that Policy S4 not be used in the
	rst is not in line with the County Council's	rst is not in line with the County Council's olicies on carbon and the LTCP's objective However, this policy is very	public transport enhancements in this area, including, among other sustainable transport measures, the delivery of the CBL.  The approach of looking at carbon offsetting approach of looking approach of looking at carbon offsetting approach of looking at carbon of looking at carbon of looking at carbon of looking at carbon

creating sustainable buildings at good densities and not using land wastefully on car parking. The policy should be amended so it is not a clear hierarchy of allowing policy requirements about net zero buildings and car parking not to be met. Instead, all the possible allowances to provide for viability should be considered in the round. requirements may be considered again before affordable housing is reduced. Firstly, the policy only applies if it can be clearly demonstrated by the developer that the policy requirements may be considered again before affordable housing is reduced. Firstly, the policy only applies if it can be clearly demonstrated by the developer that the policy requirements may be considered again before affordable housing is reduced. Firstly, the policy only applies if it can be clearly demonstrated by the developer that the policy requirements may be considered again before affordable housing is reduced. Firstly, the policy only applies if it can be clearly demonstrated by the developer that the policy requirements may be considered again before affordable housing is reduced. Firstly, the policy only applies if it can be clearly demonstrated by the developer that the policy requirements may be considered again before affordable housing is reduced. Firstly, the policy only applies if it can be clearly demonstrated by the developer that the policy requirements may be considered again before affordable housing is reduced. Firstly, the policy only applies if it can be clearly demonstrated by the developer that the policy requirements may be considered again before affordable housing is reduced. Firstly, the policy only applies if it can be clearly demonstrated by the developer that the policy requirements may be considered.

The assumption about S106 and S278 in the viability study appears low. The County
Council seeks that developments are mitigated by conditions, undertaking works and providing contributions towards infrastructure as needed.

exceptional circumstances anyway, and only when as mu as possible is done to make a development zero carbon. So Policy R1 is not weakened by t approach. Similarly, any

requirements may be considered again before affordable housing applies if it can be clearly demonstrated by the developer that the policy requirements make the scheme unviable. adjustments that can be made. Offsetting is only accepted in anyway, and only when as much as possible is done to make a Policy R1 is not weakened by this approach. Similarly, any adjustments to parking are only up to maximum standards, so there is not the option for large swathes of parking.

It is agreed that the impacts of development, including on the need for infrastructure, will need to be met by a combination of developers undertaking works and also through contributions to infrastructure. These contributions may be from CIL as well as \$106 and \$278. The assumption in the viability

manner we were concerned about (whereby carbon offsetting and parking restrictions might be given away before any affordable housing).

The explanation about the viability assessment is appreciated. We will continue to require contributions under S106 and S278. We note that the City Council controls the spending of CIL.

Status: Green

		assessment has been considered		
		carefully and reflects the		
		importance of CIL to delivering		
		infrastructure in Oxford, where		
		most developments are		
		relatively small sites and the		
		infrastructure needs generated		
		are very much cumulative.		
H1	Oxfordshire County Council questioned the	Comments noted. Policy H1 sets	Change proposed to text supporting	We welcome the City
	HENA report in our comments provided in	the housing requirement, and	Policy H1 to give more information	confirming they will be
	March 2023, and those comments can be	the supporting text relates	about need calculation.	proposing a modification and
	referred to for further detail of our position.	mainly to this. However, it is		will be interested to review
	Our concerns are two-fold about the choice	agreed that a small amount of		the proposed text supporting
	of the scenario which results in a high figure	additional text relating to how		Policy H1.
	for housing need over the whole of	the housing need and capacity		How the housing need is
	Oxfordshire, and secondly the choice to	have been calculated and to		calculated and the
	distribute that figure by an assessment of	unmet need would be helpful.		implications of this for
	likely employment in 2040 which results in			identified levels of unmet
	Oxford being apportioned 30% of the total.			need will likely need to be
	We note that government policy and	circumstances has been set out		considered at examination.
	guidance expect instead that the Standard	in Background Paper 1 and will		considered at examination.
	Method will be used to identify the housing	most likely form a key part of the		Status: Red
	need number. Other methods, such as that	examination, as will the		
	used in the HENA, are only to be used in	calculation of need.		
	exceptional circumstances. Policy H1 only			
	refers to the capacity-based requirement,			
	not the need. The question of the figure of			
	housing need, how to deal with unmet need			
	and what its quantum is for each district,			
	will therefore presumably be left to be			

considered in respect of each of the district local plans, and via statements of common ground. Any new allocations are likely to have implications for transport, education and other statutory county council functions. The county council therefore wishes to be involved in future discussions about housing need numbers and can act to highlight issues and offer a way forward in terms of infrastructure needs. Oxford's unmet housing need should be met on sites close to Oxford, either with good existing walking, cycling and public transport links or the ability to provide such links funded from development. There is potential for a greater number of houses on sites already allocated close to Oxford than is anticipated in the allocations.

Policy H1 should explain these issues and provide a convincing case for the requirement and need. It is not positively prepared in the absence of any agreement with all the district councils and county council. The HENA appears to be unjustified evidence and the policy will not be effective and there is no strategy for addressing the cross-boundary issues arising. Alternative need numbers should be considered through the examination.

	specialist housing and sites outside the city	adjacent sites to help meet this		
	should be considered at examination.	need (if this need is found in the	!	
		County's evidence base. To note	!	
		that there was limited need		
		found for this specific housing		
		type in the HENA).		
H5	Support the approach	The support is welcomed		N/A
H6	This policy sets out the number of	Comments in relation to Policy	No change proposed.	The explanation is
	bedrooms, but this may not be sufficient to	H2 acknowledge that delivery of		appreciated.
	ensure an appropriate mix of dwellings to	affordable extra care housing is		The matter of how to best
	create mixed and balanced communities.	likely to be difficult in Oxford.		provide for forms of
	Given that extra care housing developments	This policy is specifically related		specialist affordable housing,
	within Oxford City are unlikely, we consider	to size of units (in terms of the		other than extra care
	there is a need for provision within the	number of bedrooms), so the		housing, can be discussed as
	policy that refers to the possibility of	additional wording suggested		an ongoing operational
	providing affordable specialist supported	would be confusing, being about	t	matter rather than through a
	housing. Insert a new sentence between	a separate matter.		change to the Local Plan.
	the first two sentences of the policy to say:			change to the Local Flan.
	'Provision for specialist inter-generational	The prevalence rates are set out	:	Status: Green
	supported housing should be made where	in table 10.27 of the HENA (on		
	needed'. We note that in paragraph 7.3 of	page 161), and paragraphs		
	Background Paper 5 on elderly persons and	10.9.7 to 10.9.18 explain how		
	other specialist accommodation, it	these have been derived.		
	mentions that the overall need for such			
	housing is generated on the basis of a			
	prevalence rate of units required per 1,000			
	of the over 75's population, but it does not			
	state what the prevalence rate is. The City's	;		
	evidence of the ongoing need for such			
1	housing is therefore unclear.			

H13	Support the approach	The support is welcomed		N/A
H15	The policy should be amended to make it explicit that hostels will have no car parking on site. Amend criterion b to say: 'the location is within 800m of the city centre or district centre, to ensure it is easily accessible to residents and there is no need for car parking on site.'	not add any requirement or expectation. Instead, a new bullet point is proposed.	Add new bullet point to Policy H15 to say: No additional parking is provided except operational and disabled parking.	The explanation is appreciated along with the proposed modification. Status: Green.
E1	It is unclear how the requirement for no overall loss of jobs on a site can be justified when the 'number' of jobs is often quite fluid and changeable with market conditions and rarely would stay as a constant specific number. The policy wording is quite restrictive and potentially unachievable/unenforceable. A percentage threshold number based on existing job	there is no loss of employment floorspace, so this gives flexibility in the face of changing employment types and needs. Only if there is a loss of		The explanation on the purpose of using space efficiently is noted and supported.  Our query remains on the clarity of part of the policy which requires the 'number' of jobs on Category 1 and 2 sites to be retained (where there is a loss of employment floorspace or change of use), as it appears to be imprecise as a measure of something which can be very fluid over a period of time. However, we do not wish to pursue the matter and will leave this to other interested parties.  Status: Green

		practical in terms of operation of the policy.	
E4	Support the policy	The support is welcomed	N/A
G1	Oxfordshire County Council owns various school playing fields and other sites which would fall under the consideration of this policy and therefore where any loss would need to be mitigated by an alternative provision of an equivalent standard or higher. The policy should not have the effect of preventing the delivery of the County Council's statutory duties which may, at some point, include the expansion of educational facilities for example, or spaces which may be better utilised for other purposes or alternative provisions. Review the text of Policy G1 to ensure it does not unduly restrict the use and reuse of school sites.  Rationalise the text of Policy G1 to avoid repetition.  Policy G1 includes several exceptions and the policy needs to be strengthened in relation to green infrastructure not shown on the policy map. The use of the Urban Green Factor (UGF) as required by G3 is welcomed but is unlikely to adequately compensate for the loss of mature green infrastructure elements in the short-and medium-term. As such the retention of	Policy G1 follows the NPPF approach to green spaces, which protects them but which does allow their loss if they can be replaced or if they are surplus. Alternative provision may include more intensive use within the same site or a nearby site. Therefore, there is enough flexibility in the policy to allow necessary expansion of schools.  Policy G1 (rather than Policy G3) protects existing green infrastructure and refers specifically to ancient and veteran trees.  Public rights of way have their own protections which do not need to be repeated in the Local Plan.	The explanations are appreciated.  While we believe that the amendments suggested would have improved the policies, we are not proposing to pursue these matters further as the policies are likely to be effective anyway.  Status: Green

<b>G</b> 2	existing trees and other mature vegetation irrespective of its location in relation to the GI network should be a priority.  NPPF paragraph 100 states that 'planning policies and decisions should protect and enhance public rights of way and access, including taking opportunities to provide better facilities for users, for example by adding links to existing rights of way networks including National Trails' and Policy G1 should provide protection for public rights of way.  The policy is welcomed but would benefit	The policy is clear that the	Amend paragraph 4.13 to reference	· .
	from more detail, in particular to refer to the principle of the right tree in the right place so that larger growing trees are chosen where space permits as they have potential to offer greater environmental and visual benefits.  Provision for new public rights of way should be referred to in Policy G2.	the specific context of the site and surrounding area, and there are many considerations as set	This might include providing enhancements to the existing green/blue features on a site, as well as providing entirely new features and space, including potentially new public rights of way.	appreciated.  While we believe that the amendments suggested would have improved the policies, we are not proposing to pursue these matters further as the policies are likely to be effective anyway.  We appreciate the proposed modification to add 'including potentially new public rights of way' to the end of the supporting text.  Status: Green

		rights of way as an example of		
		new GI, and a minor		
		modification is proposed.		
G3	Wonder whether the greatest green	The UGF is heavily based on	No change proposed.	The explanation is
	infrastructure benefits could be achieved if	Natural England's approach,		appreciated.
	it was mandatory to achieve UGF for all	which is based on case studies. It		
	developments unless particular	only provides suggested UGFs for		Status: Green
	circumstances and reasoning are	major developments, although		
	demonstrated.	acknowledges that in future it		
		may become used more in		
		smaller developments. As it is a		
		new approach and has only been		
		worked through so far on major		
		developments this seems the		
		most justified and appropriate		
		approach to use in Oxford. We		
		do not consider it is unsound to		
		not include smaller		
		developments in the policy.		
G4	This policy should be amended having	Oxford has small sites and	No change proposed.	The explanation is
	regard to the latest legislation and guidance	limited scope for enhancements		appreciated. The County
	relating to Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)	nearby to many of these sites.		Council's Environment team
	including that published on 29th November	Other policies focus on urban		would be available to
	2023. The scope for LPAs to set higher	greening and protecting green		support the examination an
	percentage requirements for BNG is	infrastructure features, which		assist with any queries if this
	included in the guidance, and we would	are important to the successful		matter is further discussed.
	encourage this in line with the Oxfordshire	development of sites. At 20%		Status Croop
	LNP Biodiversity Net Gain Guiding Principles	BNG most of the benefits will be		Status: Green
	and reflecting commitments made by all	outside Oxford and even		
	Oxfordshire Authorities through adoption of	Oxfordshire. It is therefore not		

<b>G</b> 5	the Arc Environmental Principles, to seek 20% BNG.  The policy should be clear that the Interim Nature Recovery Network will be succeeded by the Oxfordshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy once it has been published.  Support the policy	seen as the right approach in Oxford. We do not think that 20% BNG is required for the planto be sound.  The policy text: 'Land in Oxford identified for its ecological potential within the Oxfordshire Nature Recovery Network or the future Local Nature Recovery Strategy' indicates that which is applicable at the time will be applied.  The support is welcomed		N/A
G7	The policy discusses that development needs to consider all sources of flooding; however, the remainder of the text does not state what Oxford City would consider in policy terms being appropriate in areas that are shown to be at risk from sources other than those linked to fluvial flood zones. This includes how they would sequentially test sites in relation to other sources.	For the sequential test, we have mainly discussed the risk from fluvial flooding which is the	areas at risk of flooding from other sources such as surface water and ground water flooding.	We appreciate the explanation and the proposed modification. Status: Green

standard supporting standard helpful to review m surface w measure whether	ng text should also refer to national is set by DEFRA. It would also be o clarify that the LLFA's role is to najor applications in relation to water drainage, including SuDS	statutory technical standards. These are reflected in the County Council guidance and the TAN. If the guidance does change, this will not affect implementation, but can be reflected in any updates to the County guidance or TAN if considered helpful. Reference to the document is therefore not considered helpful in the policy or text. The policy and text already set out the	We appreciate the explanation and note the descriptive text in paragraph 4.57 appears to be sufficient. Status: Green
G9 Support	the policy	LLFA's role. The support is welcomed	N/A
	<u> </u>		,
	the policy	The support is welcomed	N/A
R2 Support	the policy	The support is welcomed	N/A

R3	We welcome the reference to the circular	We do not consider it justified to	No change proposed.	We appreciate the
	economy. However, the Policy R3 should set	require circular economy		explanation.
	out how the circular economy should be	statements alongside the		Status: Green
	achieved (through the development process	submission of planning		Status. Green
	in Oxford), in line with best practice. For	applications. The principles		
	instance, the Local Plan could require the	referred to are embedded within		
	preparation of circular economy statements	policy requirements.		
	alongside the submission of planning			
	applications, setting out how the principles			
	of the circular economy will be embedded			
	into the design and layout of major			
	developments (as advocated as best			
	practice). These principles have already			
	been factored into site waste management			
	plans (e.g. Begbroke Innovation District,			
	Oxford). The plan should also encourage			
	modern methods of construction.			
R7	Support the policy	The support is welcomed		N/A
HD8	Support the policy	The support is welcomed		N/A
HD10	Support the policy	The support is welcomed		N/A
HD12	Support the policy	The support is welcomed		N/A
HD13	The policy only states that residential units	The policy does require all units	Amend (as a minor mod) paragraph	The explanation is
	with three or more bedrooms will be	to have outdoor space. An	6.52:	appreciated along with the
	provided with outdoor dying space for	amendment to the supporting		proposed modification.
	clothes. All residential units should be given	text is suggested to make it clear	The adequate provision of outdoor	Status: Green
	access to some form of drying space, such	that outdoor space may be used	amenity space is a key factor in	Status: Green
	as a communal drying area.	to dry clothes.	supporting the physical and mental	
			health and wellbeing of residents.	

C1	Amend Policy C1 to mention multi- functional benefits of community facilities.	Policy C1 sets out the overall strategy for town centre uses and for district and local centres and does not seem the best place to refer to community facilities.	Usable outdoor space should ## provide a space to dry clothes, and grow plants and vegetables, and it can provide shade and limit urban heat-island effects.  No change proposed.	The explanation is appreciated. Status: Green
C3	Amend Policy C3 to mention multi- functional benefits of community facilities. Include an additional bullet point allowing for the circumstance of where there is clear evidence of no continuing need for the community facility. There should be clear advice on what type and form of evidence would be required within an application to allow for the circumstances where there is a greater need or demand elsewhere and resources are being diverted to that. Making the best utilisation of Oxfordshire County Council owned land may be required in some instances, in line with the other policies in the Local Plan. As such this may result in alternative uses of sites needing to be considered based on the need and location of the site.	quality and accessibility.' Therefore we consider there is already positive wording about multi-functional benefits of community facilities.  It is considered that the policy provides sufficient flexibility and clarity, being clear under which circumstances a case may be made for loss of a facility and	Planning permission will be granted for new local community facilities, including those <u>located</u> within schools—and colleges—grounds, where opportunities are taken to secure community use and joint user agreements.	We appreciate the explanation about community facilities and the proposed modification. We accept that the City's requirements where a loss of community facility is proposed may become clear in practice over time.  Status: Green

		community facilities that may be within school sites, rather than schools themselves.		
C4	not possible in some cases, for example	In terms of joint user agreements, the policy allows a lot of flexibility for demonstrating they are not possible. To attempt to predict all the reasons, risks missing many and the list being read as exhaustive.		We accept the requested amendments are not necessary for soundness. Status: Green
C6	There is no reference to the Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP) under the section on 'Transport Assessments, Travel Plans and Servicing and Delivery Plans'. Reference is needed in Policy C6 and supporting text. Working in partnership with the County Council, the City Council should ensure that this Local Plan is working	references could be helpfully added to the text, and that the text of paragraph 7.21 should be amended to make it easier to read and more understandable. The text explains what is expected to be considered in	Amend paragraph 7.21:  The transport and movement strategy of the Plan is based upon: reducing the need to travel; the promotion of active travel and public transport; and the support for and implementation of the county council's core schemes. Important	The explanation is appreciated along with the proposed modification. This resolves the concern. Status: Green

towards the targets in the LTCP. There is reference in paragraph 7.40 to one of the supporting strategies to the LTCP (the Mobility Hub Strategy), but all the relevant considerations change over time. appropriate level of disabled and documents need to be mentioned. The County Council's 'Implementing Decide and Provide' should also be mentioned as it is important for developers to follow that advice to devise sustainable developments that help create liveable neighbourhoods. Amend the text of paragraph 7.40 as follows: 'Transport Assessments will be considered in the context of the County Council's Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP) and supporting strategies including the Central Oxfordshire Travel Plan, Active Travel Strategy, Innovation Framework and Mobility Hub Strategy. Particular attention should be given to the Mobility Hub Strategy on proposals at railway stations, bus stations, town and district centres, hospitals, university campuses and Category 1 employment sites.'

Amend the first paragraph of Policy C6 to add: 'Consideration of proposals will be in the context of the County Council's Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP) and its supporting strategies and advice such as 'Implementing Decide and Provide'.

transport assessments. To add removes flexibility should these ensuring the retention of an

approaches are, reduction include this to policy is unnecessary and reducing in car parking while yet servicing needs including taxi access, the support for car clubs, the support for well-designed electric vehicle charging provision and ensuring suitable levels of bicycle parking are provided in new development. During the Plan period it is anticipated that trial traffic filters will be introduced. These are predicted to have a transformational impact on congestion-reduction...

Amend paragraph 7.40:

Transport Assessments will be considered in the context of the County Council's Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP) and supporting strategies including the Central Oxfordshire Travel Plan, Active Travel Strategy, Innovation Framework and Mobility Hub Strategy. Particular attention should be given to the Mobility Hub Strategy on proposals at Consideration should be given to the County Council's Mobility Hub

C7	These standards are not the same as the County Council's requirements set out in our recent Parking Standards document that is available online and was available at the time this Local Plan was being prepared. The City Council agreed these standards prior to their adoption. The City's standards in some cases do not require as much bicycle parking as the County standards. The City's standards are also difficult to understand in part and imprecise. Amend Policy C7 and the related appendix so that bicycle and powered two wheeler parking design standards do not contradict the County Council's standards.	not necessary. Main modification proposed to refer to County Council's standards.	Planning permission will only be granted for development that complies with or exceeds the minimum bicycle parking provisions and the parking provision for powered two wheelers as set out in Appendix 7.4. Oxfordshire County Council's Parking Standards for New Developments.	
C8	Our concerns on Policy C8 and the related appendix are based on the same issues as with Policy C7 above. The City Council agreed the now adopted County Council parking standards and the Local Plan will be most effective if there is no contradiction. Amend Policy C8 and the related appendix	council has long set out its own parking standards. The standards in the OLP2036 are reflected in	No change proposed.	We accept that the City Council will continue to include vehicle parking standards in the Local Plan. The standards in the Reg 19 Local Plan are effectively the same as the County Council's

	so that motor vehicle parking design standards do not contradict the County Council's standards.	part of its overall strategy, as something that should be led by the Local Plan.	recently issued parking standards and therefore both parties are in agreement. Status: Green
<b>C</b> 9	Amend Policy C9 so that it is consistent with the Oxfordshire County Council Street Design Guide and Oxfordshire Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy requiring that at least 25% of car parking spaces for non-residential development have EV charging infrastructure.	, ,	 The explanation is appreciated along with the proposed modification. Status: Green
SPN3	Amend the last sentence of the first paragraph on movement and access in Policy SPN3 to read: 'Along with the new route, improvements should be made to the existing footpath and cycleway adjacent to the Bowls Club which links to Cherwell School.'	The current wording of the policy is considered more appropriate as it gives flexibility, which is needed at the current time and the ability for the landowner to effect the suggested change when no scheme has yet been tested is not 100% certain.	The explanation is appreciated. We accept that this matter can be considered at planning application stage. Status: Green
SPS1	Add to the end of the paragraph on movement and access in Policy SPS1: 'It is expected that proposals will have less car parking associated with them than has existed historically.'	Policy CBLLAOF includes criterion b, which says: 'Development sites coming across the area should seek to reduce car parking in line with Policy C8.'	The explanation is appreciated. Status: Green

	The ARC site is within this area of focus, so this does not need to be repeated in Policy SPS1.		
convenient pedestrian and cycle access to the site is needed to ensure much greater use of active travel modes and public transport in future. The current text implies that the existing footpaths are adequate. Contributions to the Cowley Branch Line and for active travel connections to its stations will also be expected upon development of this site. Amend the paragraph on movement and access in Policy SPS2 so that is clear that additional and improved footpaths and cycleways will be required as well as contributions to the Cowley Branch Line.	access the policy is already clear that existing footpaths should be enhanced and that the site must be developed to allow easy pedestrian and cycle movement to and across the site from all directions. There is no implication in the policy that existing routes are adequate, and enhancements are already expected. However, reference to the Cowley Branch line could be added to the policy, along with additional text to make the intention clear.	Although there are Ppublicly accessible footpaths wrapping around the north (Northfield Brook) and east of the Stadium site, linking up with Minchery Lane to the west and Littlemore/Blackbird Leys to the north, the site is currently vehicle oriented. The vehicular access points	

SPS3	The existing footpaths and cycleways in this vicinity need to be improved. Stronger text is needed as the current text only suggests	clearer that an improved	IAITHOUGH THERE ARE PRUBLICIV	
	that opportunities to enhance such routes	Close is expected and improved access in the western corner.	accessible footpaths wrapping around the north (Northfield Brook) and east of the Stadium site, linking	modification. Status: Green

site towards Littlemore, via Priory Road, designed to ensure that the site should also be improved. does not remain car dependent. It will be important to contribute to better public transport, including the proposed Cowley Branch Line station nearby. Development of the site must be designed to allow easy pedestrian and cycle movement east to west and north to south across the site and into the surrounding areas and active travel linkages to and from a future Oxford Littlemore railway station and the future development South of Grenoble Road will need to be provided. Public transport enhancements will be required to ensure that the site does not remain car dependent. There are <del>frequent</del> bus services from Pegasus Road<del>, and the need for</del> further bus services will be considered, depending on the scale of development , and t. The pedestrian access to these bus stops via the public footpaths should be enhanced to support new commercial and residential uses. Public transport enhancements will be required to ensure that the site does not remain car-dependent. The vehicular access will continue to be

		in the same location from Grenoble Road.	
Amend the paragraph on mo access in Policy SPS7 to inclu sentence: 'The existing active network should be improved as a consequence of development to both or planned development in the that adjoining in South Oxford	de as the last clearer version of the decrease wording, so agree with proposed amendment proposed amendment existing and earea, including	This site is located within the	Status: Green

SPS12	access in Policy SPS12 to make it clear that the access arrangements will change as a result of redevelopment. The redevelopment must better provide for people to walk and cycle. There should be a	Between Towns Road already accommodates an important public transport hub, and that is referred to in the policy. It is agreed that a change to make it clearer there should be better provision for people to walk and cycle would be helpful.	for people to walk and cycle, including by Development should	The explanation is appreciated along with the proposed modification.  This resolves the concern.  Status: Green
SPE4	Amend the paragraph on movement and access in Policy SPE4 to make it clear that although vehicle access points won't change, development will create a need for improved pedestrian and cycle connectivity through the site.	and cycle connectivity through the site could be made more explicitly.	Amend Policy SPE4:  The existing accesses allow good permeability through the site and are likely to remain the best locations for accessing the site in future, and it will need to be ensured there is good pedestrian and cycle connectivity through the site.	The explanation is appreciated along with the proposed modification. This resolves the concern. Status: Green

Amend the first sentence on movement and access in Policy SPE20 so that it reads as follows: 'Improvements to public transport, walking and cycling access to and through the site will be required'.  Amend the last sentence on the first paragraph on movement and access in Policy SPE20 so that it reads as follows: 'Additional access points for non-vehicular traffic onto the site should be identified and provided where possible.'	would be helpful.	Improvements to public transport, walking and cycling access to and through the site will be required Additional access points for to-nonvehicular traffic onto the site should be identified and provided where possible. will also be beneficial.	The explanation is appreciated along with the proposed modification. This resolves the concern. Status: Green
There is an issue in the inconsistency between policies on the areas of focus in respect of reference to the Oxford Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (Oxford LCWIP). The Oxford LCWIP was approved in 2020. A statement similar to that in Policies WEAOF, CBLLAOF and MRORAOF is needed here. Add as 'k', or renumber and include as 'a' in Policy NCCAOF: 'Pedestrian and cycling infrastructure improvements, delivered in accordance with the requirements of the Oxford Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (Oxford LCWIP). All opportunities to optimise connectivity and permeability for people walking and cycling should be taken'.	usefully be added to NCCAOF for consistency.	follows:  K Pedestrian and cycling infrastructure improvements, delivered in accordance with the	The explanation is appreciated along with the proposed modification. This resolves the concern. Status: Green
The movement and access part of this policy needs amending to reflect the need to	Our understanding is that this is the improvements that were		We appreciate the explanation and accept that

contribute to the Botley Road Active and Sustainable Transport Corridor Scheme.  There are ongoing improvements planned along Botley Road further to the study undertaken in 2016.  Add between the two sentences in the movement and access part of Policy SPCW8: 'Contributions will be expected to progress the Botley Road active and sustainable transport corridor scheme.'  At the current time we are not sure there is sufficient justification to ask for contributions to this scheme, as we're not sure that it is necessary or of particular benefit to this site, and we're not sure how much certainty there is about future schemes on the Botley Road lideally be policies about a  The City Council fully  No change proposed.  Status: Green  Status: Green  A modification is not n for soundness.  Status: Green  Status: Green  The coundness.  Status: Green	eeded
There are ongoing improvements planned along Botley Road further to the study undertaken in 2016.  Add between the two sentences in the movement and access part of Policy SPCW8:  'Contributions will be expected to progress the Botley Road active and sustainable transport corridor scheme.'  Binsey Lane in Stage 1, with Stage 2 intended to be the section between Binsey Lane and the Rail Station, but which the station works then superseded.  At the current time we are not sure there is sufficient justification to ask for contributions to this scheme, as we're not sure that it is necessary or of particular benefit to this site, and we're not sure how much certainty there is about future schemes on the Botley Road near the site.	
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Omission There would ideally be policies about a The City Council fully No change proposed We appreciate the	
Offission There would ideally be policies about a Time City Council fully live change proposed. We appreciate the	
policy number of public health issues. On the understands the concerns explanation and do no	t wish
matter of hot food takeaways, having no around excess weight and to pursue this matter.	
policy is not addressing the evidence and a supports the objectives of the Status: Green	
key health priority for the City, namely Director of Public Health in	
levels of obesity. Policies have been addressing health inequalities.	
included in other Local Plans. There are a number of policies in	
the Local Plan that help to do so.	
We're aware that some	
authorities have taken the	
approach of implementing	
takeaway exclusion zones as one	Ì

tool to help this further. We have looked at this in Oxford and do not consider it to be the right solution in the city. It feels a fairly blunt tool given that takeaways are far from the only source of poor diet, and are not necessarily, purely by definition, of poor quality.

There are also a number of practical issues with developing a policy along these lines. It would not lead to an overall reduction in takeaways, and it would be difficult to identify the appropriate upper limit on number. Despite some of the early policies of this nature being a good number of years old, we have been unable to find evidence that such a policy actually reduces health inequalities over time.

However, we tested what such exclusion zones around schools would look like and discovered that given the compact nature of the city, they would mean that several of our district centres

	would be affected despite the wider strategy aims for location of town centre uses. The alternative approach proposed would mean applying a different and more restrictive policy approach in those more deprived parts of the city than elsewhere. We consider that reducing choice in an arbitrary way is	
	inappropriate. There is no requirement in government policy to include such a policy in Local Plans, and we have a range of other policies in place to address health inequalities; we do not consider there to be a soundness issue.	
1	 be helpful and modifications are proposed.	The proposed modifications are appreciated. Status: Green

			street design should reflect this. Oxfordshire County Council's <u>Local</u> <u>Transport and Connectivity Plan</u> <u>should be referred to and its Street</u> Design Guide provides useful advice.	
7	Amend Appendix 7.4 to so that the bicycle parking standards are clear and consistent with the Oxfordshire County Council parking standards.  Amend Appendix 7.6 to so that the vehicular parking standards are clear and consistent with the Oxfordshire County Council parking standards.	See response to Policy C7 and C8		We appreciate that there will be proposed modifications on the bicycle parking standards and we accept that the vehicular parking standards appear sufficiently clear and consistent. Status: Green
1	Short list of corrections and updates provided.	Agree that changes can be made		We appreciate the agreement to make the changes. Status: Green
	City Health Baseline should be included within the main report. Each topic area needs to provide detail of the health and wellbeing needs and priorities, using data identified in the health and wellbeing topic paper. A robust HIA needs to identify the impacts (positive, negative or neutral) of all the policies in the Local Plan against the key issues. We would anticipate that some	We will add some extra cross references to the topic paper into the HIA.  The point about a summary table of all policies and their potential health impacts is noted and it is acknowledged we could perhaps have set this out in more detail.	submission.	We appreciate the agreement to make changes. This resolves the concern. Status: Green

policies might have negative impacts and in	However, we do not think this	
those cases mitigation or comments would	would have affected any	
need to be identified, with key actions listed	outcomes in the plan. Whilst we	
in the conclusion.	intended the LP HIA to be a	
	separate body of work, it is	
	supported by the Sustainability	
	Appraisal of course, which does	
	touch on the impacts of every	
	policy (table 6.1 assess all the	
	policies against the SA	
	framework which includes as a	
	topic 5. inequalities and health).	
	The wording essentially pulls out	
	some of the key policies to help	
	give a flavour of how the LP as a	
	whole addressed the topic of	
	health and weaves it throughout	
	the policies/chapters.	
	We are happy to try and improve	
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
	the HIA by addressing some of	
	the contextual data that has	
	been suggested here.	
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