

Response from Bioabundance Community Interest Company – Matter 3

Housing need and the housing requirement

The HENA and housing need

Q1. Why does the HENA seek to assess the housing need for Oxfordshire and all of the individual authorities? Is this justified?

There is no other way for Oxford city to steamroller through its plans for growth. This is not justified.

Q2. How does the HENA arrive at the four scenarios for housing need? What evidence sources and assumptions are used? Are these appropriate and justified?

No. The scenario of meeting all of Oxford's needs within the City is not addressed.

Q3. What is the basis for choosing the CE Baseline scenario and departing from the standard method scenario? Is this justified?

It is hoped that this will generate the maximum of GDP measured economic activity within the City. Other alternatives to generate Green economic activity within sustainable limits are not considered.

Q6. How has the capacity to accommodate housing within Oxford City been assessed? Has the process been sufficiently thorough and robust? Could the capacity estimate be increased by altering assumptions or policy approaches? If so, what effect would this have?

No! The process has not been sufficiently thorough and robust. The capacity to accommodate housing within Oxford City in high rise buildings has not been assessed. The existing policy is economic activity and commercial buildings within the city, housing outside the city.

Q8 How and where is it intended to meet the unmet need of 841 homes per annum (16,828 over the plan period)?

Oxford City will try to force the surrounding Districts to meet to meet its unmet need. It could equally well be met by building high rise multi occupancy homes within City boundaries. The need for this number of homes is disputed.