

**Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031 (Part 1)**  
**Partial Review – Oxford's Unmet Housing Need**  
**Regulation 19 Consultation - Proposed Submission Documents July 2017**  
**Representation Form**

The Proposed Submission Documents are available for inspection and comment from Monday 17 July 2017 to 5pm on Tuesday 10 October 2017.

**Representations received after this date and time may not be considered.**

The documents are available online at [www.cherwell.gov.uk/planningpolicyconsultation](http://www.cherwell.gov.uk/planningpolicyconsultation) and at the locations specified in the Statement of Representations Procedure.

**How to use this form**

Please refer to the accompanying Guidance Notes.

Please complete **Part A** in full.

Then complete **Part B for each part of the document you wish to comment on.**

As well as the proposed Local Plan (Partial Review) this form can also be used to comment on the sustainability appraisal and other supporting documents.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ANONYMOUS OR CONFIDENTIAL COMMENTS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED. YOUR NAME AND COMMENTS WILL BE PUBLISHED WHEN THE CONSULTATION IS COMPLETE, BUT PERSONAL INFORMATION (SUCH AS YOUR ADDRESS OR EMAIL ADDRESS) WILL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL.**

**Please return completed forms:**

**By Email to:** [PlanningPolicyConsultation@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:PlanningPolicyConsultation@cherwell-dc.gov.uk)

**Or by post to:** Planning Policy Consultation, Planning Policy Team, Strategic Planning and the Economy, Cherwell District Council, Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, OX15 4AA.

If you have any questions about completing the form, please telephone 01295 227985.

Your details will be added to our mailing list which means that you will be automatically notified of the submission of the local plan for independent examination, of the publication of the recommendations of the person appointed to carry out the examination, and of the adoption of the local plan. If you subsequently wish to be removed from our mailing list please contact us.

**PART A**

	<b>Details of the person / body making the comments</b>	<b>Details of the agent submitting the comments on behalf of another person / body (if applicable)</b>
<b>Title</b>		
<b>First Name</b>		
<b>Last Name</b>		
<b>Job Title (where relevant)</b>		
<b>Organisation (where relevant)</b>		
<b>E-mail Address</b>		
<b>Postal Address</b>		
<b>Post Code</b>		
<b>Telephone Number (optional)</b>		

<b>Please state how many Part B forms are submitted with this representation</b>	
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**PART B – Please complete a separate Part B form for each part of the document you wish to comment on**

<b>Name (to ensure the comments are correctly recorded from each form)</b>	CPRE Oxfordshire
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**1. To which document does this representation relate?**

<b>Proposed Submission Plan</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Policies Map within the Plan</b>	<b>PLEASE SELECT</b>
<b>Sustainability Appraisal Report</b>	<b>PLEASE SELECT</b>
<b>Other Document</b> <i>(please specify)</i>	

**2. To which part of the document does this representation relate?**

<b>Paragraph</b> <i>(please specify)</i>	
<b>Policy</b> <i>(please specify)</i>	Policy PR 6 - North Oxford Policy PR7 - Kidlington Policy PR8 - Begbroke
<b>Table</b> <i>(please specify)</i>	
<b>Appendix</b> <i>(please specify)</i>	
<b>Other reference in document</b> <i>(please specify)</i>	

**3. Do you consider the Proposed Submission Plan to be:**

<b>Legally &amp; Procedurally Compliant?</b>	<b>PLEASE SELECT</b>
<b>Compliant with the Duty to Cooperate?</b>	<b>PLEASE SELECT</b>
<i>The ‘tests’ of Soundness:</i>	
<b>Positively Prepared</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Justified</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Effective</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Consistent with National Policy</b>	<b>NO</b>

**4. Please provide the reasons if you have selected ‘NO’ to any part of Question 3 and consider the Plan to be uncompliant and/or unsound. Please make reference to the part of the document you have identified. Alternatively, please explain why you consider the Plan to be compliant and/or sound.**

## TRANSPORT - THE PROPOSED NEW STATION AT KIDLINGTON/BEGBROKE

The initial proposals for the development made great emphasis on the provision of a new railway station “between Kidlington & Begbroke”, the implication being that this station would cater for the needs of residents to reach their places of employment in Oxford and that therefore the housing plans are more sustainable.

The relevant railway line is that from Oxford and the south to the midlands and north via Banbury. It is intensively used with half hourly cross-country trains and frequent freights including regular intermodal trains from and to Southampton docks. There is also a local service of 12 trains per day each way (9 on Saturdays, 3 on summer Sundays, none on winter Sundays) calling at the intermediate stations at Tackley, Heyford & Kings Sutton. North of Aynho Junction, as far as Banbury, these trains all have to interwork with the three trains per hour on the Chiltern Line to and from London Marylebone.

There are presently no proposals for a new station on this line, nor are there likely to be. Neither Network Rail, Oxfordshire County Council nor any train operator has any aspiration for a station here. It does not feature on any relevant route study or strategic proposal.

For example, we note that no such plans have been included in the Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy, signed off by the Oxfordshire Growth Board in September 2017, which claims to 'provide a view of emerging development and infrastructure requirements to support growth from 2016 to 2031 and beyond'. This includes a description of numerous rail improvement projects both pre and post 2031, as well as listing infrastructure priorities for the A40 Corridor, but gives no mention at all to a new station in this area.

Journey time for the local trains is 30 minutes and they only just slot in between the other services; in other words, a train leaving Banbury soon after the previous southbound train only arrives in Oxford just before the next one. To add an extra stop on the route would make this pathing issue even more tricky. It would be possible to accelerate the journey time with electric trains which have better acceleration and deceleration rates and thus allow an extra stop in the same timetable but although the previous government did announce a scheme to electrify this railway as part of its “electric spine” in 2012, this has been deferred and there is at present no prospect of this happening.

Great Western Railway (GWR) operate the local trains and they do have an aspiration to increase the frequency to a train every 90 minutes across the whole day but it is only an aspiration, not a timed commitment. Even that frequency is not really sufficient to attract substantial numbers of commuters to use rail on a daily basis. For that a half hourly service level is, these days, a basic requirement.

The station at Oxford Parkway, opened in October 2015 and connected to Oxford station in December 2016 has in any case now become the railhead for Kidlington, swathes of north Oxford, Headington and surrounding villages. The rail industry as a whole is thus utterly unlikely to wish to commit to another new station “between Kidlington and Begbroke”.

**(Continue on separate sheet if necessary)**

**5. Please set out what change(s) you consider necessary to make the Local Plan legally compliant or sound. Please provide any suggested wording or re-wording you consider necessary.**

References to the station should be removed from the Plan as it is not deliverable within the lifetime of the Plan and therefore is not effective.

Any element of development that is dependent on this station being delivered should be removed from the Plan as unsound.

Plans for additional housing in north Oxford/south Kidlington should be put on hold until the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway route is settled, the East West railway is re-opened and the full extent of the expansion of Bicester is agreed, with its possible new transport infrastructure.

**(Continue on separate sheet if necessary)**

(Continue on separate sheet if necessary)

**6. If you are seeking a change to the Plan, do you wish to express an interest to participate in the Examination?**

<b>I wish to participate at the oral examination</b>	<b>YES</b>
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**7. If you wish to participate at the oral part of the Examination, please outline why you consider this to be necessary:**

CPRE Oxfordshire represents a wide membership across the County, including many parish councils and local organisations, and seeks to influence development to protect and enhance the countryside. We would like to attend the oral part of the Examination in order to have the opportunity to respond in person to any further comments made by the Council and developers on these issues.

**(Continue on separate sheet if 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.*

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY 5PM ON TUESDAY 10 October 2017 BY EMAIL TO:**

[PlanningPolicyConsultation@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:PlanningPolicyConsultation@cherwell-dc.gov.uk)

**ALTERNATIVELY PLEASE SEND BY POST TO:**

**Planning Policy Consultation**

**Planning Policy Team**

**Strategic Planning and the Economy**

**Cherwell District Council**

**Bodicote House**

**Bodicote**

**Banbury**

**OX15 4AA**