

**South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2035**

**Statement of Common Ground**

**between**

**South Oxfordshire District Council**

**and**

**Oxfordshire County Council**

**in relation to the South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2035**

**June 2020**

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared by South Oxfordshire District Council (“the Council”) and Oxfordshire County Council (“the County Council”) hereafter referred to as “the parties”. It sets out matters that are agreed and those that are not between the parties in relation to the South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2035 (“the Plan”). Appendix 1 provides details of the status of the County Council’s requests for modifications arising from their Regulation 19 response referred to in their Matters Statements. Appendix 2 provides details of the status of soundness issues that the County Council raised in their Regulation 19 response.
- 1.2 The County Council is still seeking additional changes as set out in their Regulation 19 response. The Council will continue to work with the County Council to address these points through minor modifications where appropriate.
- 1.3 This statement is provided without prejudice to other matters that parties may wish to raise during the Examination.

## **2. Duty to Cooperate and Strategic Housing Market Assessment**

- 2.1 The parties are content that the previous Statement of Common Ground between all the Oxfordshire Authorities signed in February 2019, available in the Submission Document Library (DUC10), sets out the relevant matters in respect of the Duty to Cooperate and Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA).
- 2.2 The February 2019 Statement of Common Ground details the matters agreed on unmet housing need, the Housing and Growth Deal and the collective preparation of Local Plans. It confirms matters with regards to the SHMA.
- 2.3 The Statement of Common Ground also confirmed that the Oxfordshire Authorities have a long history of working effectively together and work closely and continuously on matters of strategic cross boundary importance in accordance with the Duty to Cooperate.
- 2.4 The parties agree that the Council has discharged its Duty to Cooperate.

## **3. Archaeology**

- 3.1 The County Council currently works with the Oxfordshire Authorities on protecting and conserving Oxfordshire’s archaeological resources. The County Council raised concerns within their Regulation 19 consultation response regarding the Plan provisions in respect of archaeological resources which can be found or are adjacent to the strategic allocations of Chalgrove Airfield, Berinsfield, Northfield, and Bayswater Brook. The County Council did not ask for any changes in respect of the provisions in respect of the archaeological resources which can be found or are adjacent to the strategic allocations at

Grenoble Road, Culham and Wheatley Oxford Brookes, or any of the other sites to be allocated in the Plan.

- 3.2 An agreed list of proposed modifications to the submission version of the Plan, with regard to archaeology, is set out in Appendix 1.
- 3.3 The parties agree that subject to the proposed modifications set out in Appendix 1, there are no outstanding concerns, with regards to the Plan provisions in respect of archaeological resources.

#### **4. Concept Plans**

- 4.1 For each strategic site, a concept plan has been produced to demonstrate an indication as to how the allocation could be brought forward. The County Council raised concerns on the concept plans for each site in their Regulation 19 consultation response.
- 4.2 The parties agree that the concept plans for all strategic sites are indicative only, i.e. they are within the plan only to provide a high level indication as to how the sites could be delivered.
- 4.3 The position of the parties in respect of changes to the concept plans that have been requested by the County Council, is set out in Appendix 1.

#### **5. Education**

- 5.1 The parties work closely to plan for and deliver appropriate education provision on new development schemes and there is a proven track record of new schools being delivered successfully.
- 5.2 The Plan has benefitted from Oxfordshire County Council officer input, both formally and informally, at each stage of the plan preparation including Oxfordshire County Council officer attendance at some meetings with promoters of the proposed site allocations.
- 5.3 The individual policies for each of the proposed site allocations set out what education provision may be expected in relation to each site. The wording of these policies has been informed by detailed engagement with Oxfordshire County Council officers. An agreed list of proposed modifications to the submission version of the Local Plan, with regards to education provision expected from the proposed site allocations, is set out in Appendix 1.
- 5.4 The parties agree that the requirements set out in the policies for the strategic sites and in the updated Infrastructure Delivery Plan (April 2020) (PSD27) with regard to education are proportionate and are justified to support the needs of the new and existing communities.

## 6. Minerals and Waste

- 6.1 Oxfordshire County Council is responsible for determining planning applications for minerals and waste and for producing the Minerals and Waste Local Plan. The Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Part 1 – Core Strategy (WWF05) was adopted in September 2017. The County Council has now started work on the Part 2 – Site Allocations Plan<sup>1</sup>. Together these will replace the Minerals and Waste Local Plan which was adopted in 1996<sup>2</sup>.
- 6.2 The County Council undertook a Regulation 18 consultation on the draft part 2 plan which concluded in March 2020. The draft plan sets out the preferred mineral extraction and waste management sites that will be needed within Oxfordshire up to 2031. South Oxfordshire District Council provided a response to the consultation. The County Council is considering the responses received during the consultation.
- 6.3 The County Council, in their response to the Regulation 19 consultation to the South Oxfordshire Local Plan, highlighted that the proposed site allocations at Berinsfield and Culham sit within and adjacent to safeguarded mineral and waste sites. The position of the parties in respect of proposed modifications to the submission version of the Local Plan, with regards to these minerals and waste sites, is set out in Appendix 1.

## 7. Transport and Safeguarding

### Safeguarding of Transport Schemes

- 7.1 To help deliver the transport infrastructure required, the County Council, in January 2019, submitted a bid for £218m of funding from the Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF)<sup>3</sup> to support transport schemes around Didcot and surrounding areas. The then Chancellor of the Exchequer, Phillip Hammond, announced in the 2019 Spring Statement that Oxfordshire had been successful in its bid for funding from HIF for £218 million<sup>4</sup>.
- 7.2 The funding agreement for the awarded £218m for infrastructure improvements for in and around Didcot was announced on 19 June 2020<sup>5</sup>. This fund will help to deliver the following 4 schemes, which all include high quality walking and cycling provision:

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<sup>1</sup> Minerals and Waste Local Plan Part 2 available at: <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/environment-and-planning/planning/planning-policy/minerals-and-waste-policy/new-minerals-and-waste-plan>

<sup>2</sup> Minerals and Waste Local Plan 1996 available at: <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/environment-and-planning/planning/planning-policy/minerals-and-waste-policy/minerals-and-waste-local-plan>

<sup>3</sup> Press notice from Oxfordshire County Council is available at: <https://news.oxfordshire.gov.uk/major-transport-improvements-in-didcot-garden-town--218m-housing-infrastructure-fund-bid/>

<sup>4</sup> Spring Statement 2019 available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/spring-statement-2019-philip-hammonds-speech>

<sup>5</sup> Press notice from Oxfordshire County Council is available at: <https://news.oxfordshire.gov.uk/oxfordshire-county-council-awarded-218m-in-funding-from-homes-england/>

- Widening of the A4130 from A34 Milton Interchange towards Didcot from single to dual carriageway;
- A new Science Bridge over the A4130, Great Western Railway Line and Milton Road and across the former Didcot A Power Station site through to the Northern Perimeter Road;
- A new Didcot to Culham River Crossing between the A4130 at Didcot and A415 at Culham near the Science Centre, and;
- A Clifton Hampden bypass between the A415 and the B4015.

7.3 The County Council has undertaken extended feasibility design work on these schemes and a public consultation took place between March and April 2020<sup>6</sup>. South Oxfordshire District Council responded to the consultation highlighting that the design of the routes consulted on were not consistent with the safeguarded maps within the submitted version of the Plan. To reflect the work undertaken on the routes since the Plan was submitted, the parties agree to propose modifications to the safeguarded maps within the South Local Plan. These updated maps can be found in the South Oxfordshire District Council Matter 7 Statement. Both parties agree to these revised maps.

7.4 The Plan also seeks to safeguard the following routes for transport improvements;

- Didcot Northern Perimeter Road;
- Southern Didcot Spine Road;
- A4074/B4015 (Golden Balls) Junction Improvements;
- A bypass for Southern Abingdon;
- A bypass for Benson;
- A bypass for Watlington;
- A new Park and Ride site at Sandford to the south-east of Oxford; and
- A4130 road safety improvements.

7.5 The parties agree that all the schemes mentioned above should be safeguarded to ensure that their delivery is not prejudiced. Updated maps for the Benson and Watlington Relief Roads can also be found in the South Oxfordshire District Council Matter 7 Statement.

#### *Transport infrastructure associated with the proposed site allocations*

7.6 The County Council, as the highways authority for Oxfordshire, has been involved in setting out what plan provisions will be required in respect of transport for each strategic allocation.

7.7 To identify broadly what improvements are required, the Evaluation of Transport Impacts assessment (ETI) (TRA06) tested the implications of each strategic allocation against the existing network. The parties agree that the ETI

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<sup>6</sup> The feasibility design work on the schemes linked to HIF can be found here:

<https://consultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consult/ti/DidcotAreaInfrastructureUpdate/consultationHome>

(TRA06) is robust in recognising the likely main improvements required to the existing network to enable the sites to be deliverable.

- 7.8 The known requirements to improve the existing cycling, road and walking network and create additional schemes for new routes, are set out in the updated Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) (PSD27). The parties agree that the IDP (PSD27) is robust in identifying the latest available information in respect of the necessary works.
- 7.9 The funding agreement for the £218m of Didcot Garden Town HIF schemes anticipates that some of the funding will be recovered through S106 agreements to help fund other transport schemes in the area. The parties agree that additional text in the Plan after paragraph 7.10 and in Policy INF1 is needed as set out in Appendix 1.
- 7.10 The viability of infrastructure package has been tested, with an update in June 2020. The parties agreed as part of the production of the update in June 2020 that, where transport costings were at an early stage of development, a contingency was added to draft costings. The costings will be refined as schemes are developed and the IDP will be subsequently updated.

## **8. Evidence**

- 8.1 The parties agree that the infrastructure and viability evidence supporting the Plan is robust and proportionate to the development of a Local Plan.

## Signatures

Signed on behalf of South Oxfordshire District Council



Lucy Murfett  
Planning Policy Manager

26 June 2020

Signed on behalf of Oxfordshire County Council



Sue Halliwell  
Director of Planning and Place

26 June 2020

Appendix 1 – Modifications agreed between parties to the Submission Version of the Local Plan and responses on other Matters

Number	Topic	Plan Ref	Proposed Modification – These modifications were requested by the County Council and have in some instances been amended/or drafted by the Council in order to seek agreement in preparation of this Statement of Common Ground	County Comments	SODC Comments	Document modification referenced
1	Archaeology	4.61-4.68	Amend paragraph 4.66 to the following; ‘The airfield is flat and largely free from constraints. The site is predominantly ‘previously developed land’. There are no known archaeological or ecological constraints. ‘Chalgrove Field 1643’, a registered historic battlefield, is located adjacent to the site <b>partly within and to the east of the site and represents a significant constraint</b> ’.	Agree	Agree	Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)
2	Archaeology	STRAT 10	Amend STRAT 10 as follows; ‘ <del>be accompanied</del> <b>an accompanying</b> archaeological <del>assessment</del> <b>evaluation</b> that considers the areas of known and potential archaeological interest of the site in accordance with Policy ENV9.’ <b>And ‘iii) That it has taken account of the archaeological desk based assessment evaluation and identified an appropriate scheme of mitigation, including the physical preservation of significant archaeological features and their setting, where appropriate.’</b>	Agree	Agree	SODC Response to Inspectors Questions – IC4 - Submitted April 2020 And Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)
3	Archaeology	STRAT 12	Add an additional paragraph to STRAT 12 as follows; ‘ <b>Archaeological evaluation will need to be undertaken ahead of the determination of any planning application in order to assess the significance of deposits in line with the NPPF 2019. A scheme of appropriate mitigation will be required following this evaluation including the physical preservation of significant archaeological features and their setting where appropriate.</b> ’	Agree	Agree	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 12 Statement And Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)
4	Archaeology	STRAT 13	Amend STRAT13 – 4 as follows; An archaeological assessment will need to be <b>evaluation was</b> undertaken <b>during 2020</b> before the preparation of the masterplan. <del>determination of any planning application for this site. Following this assessment, a</del> <b>A</b> scheme of appropriate mitigation should be established, to include the physical preservation of significant archaeological features and their setting <del>where appropriate.</del>	Agree	Agree	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 16 Statement And Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)
5	Concept Plan	STRAT 9	Delete Schools from concept plan and key  Change ‘Employment’ on key to ‘Mixed Use’ for No1 site  Retitle as ‘Land Adjacent to Culham Science Centre’ or include Culham Science Centre and identify that for employment.	Agree	The concept plans are indicative only and could be discussed further at the hearing sessions if appropriate	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 12 Statements
6	Concept Plan	STRAT 10	Delete Schools from concept plan and key (instead show area as built development)  Delete indicative route alignment link to Burcot Lane	Agree	The concept plans are indicative only and could be discussed further at the hearing sessions if appropriate	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 15 Statements
7	Concept Plan	STRAT 11	Delete Schools from concept plan and key (instead show area as built development)	Agree	The concept plans are indicative only and could	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 13 Statements

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					be discussed further at the hearing sessions if appropriate	
8	Concept Plan	STRAT 12	Delete indicative access points from diagram and key  Delete schools from diagram and key  Delete indicative route alignment from diagram and key	Agree	The concept plans are indicative only and could be discussed further at the hearing sessions if necessary	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 14 Matter Statement
9	Concept Plan	STRAT 13	Delete the Sandhills part of drawing  Replace 'Transport Access Only' with 'Area needed for Transport Access' and extend the area shown to the west of the Elsfield Road and Woodeaton Road to accommodate the need for works on both the Elsfield and Woodeaton Roads; and south of the A40 to provide a landing point for a pedestrian and cycle bridge.	Agree	The concept plans are indicative only and could be discussed further at the hearing sessions if appropriate	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 16 Matter Statement
10	Education	STRAT 10	Amend STRAT 10 as follows; 'v) <del>provide</del> sufficient education capacity, <b>which is likely to require one additional primary school provided on site, contributions to the enhancement of Abbey Woods Primary School, and contributions to</b> to be a total of two primary schools on site and a contribution to a new secondary school and Special Education Needs (SEN) <b>provided off site;</b> '	Agree	Agree	SODC Response to Inspectors Questions – IC4 - Submitted April 2020  And  Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)
11	Education	5.30	Modification to paragraph 5.30 as follows; ' <b><u>Neighbourhood planning groups will need to cooperate with infrastructure providers and statutory consultees to provide this evidence and develop viable solutions for any infrastructure provision that is needed.</u></b> '	Agree	Agree	Schedule of Proposed Modifications submitted with Local Plan - Submitted March 2019  And  Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)
12	Education	STRAT 11	Amend STRAT 11 2-iv as follows; ' <b><u>one new 8 form entry</u></b> secondary school with sixth form'	Agree	Agree	Schedule of Proposed Modifications submitted with Local Plan - Submitted March 2019  And  Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)
13	Education	STRAT 12	Amend STRAT 12 as follows; 'Amend typo – 2 iii) ' <del>...</del> contributions towards an <del>other of</del> <b><u>off-site</u></b> secondary school...'	Agree	Agree	Schedule of Proposed Modifications submitted with Local Plan - Submitted March 2019

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						And Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)
14	Minerals and Waste	STRAT 9	<p>The County Council propose the following modification to STRAT9;</p> <p>vi) a layout that takes into account the mineral safeguarding area <del>to the north of the site</del> <u>on land to the south and the safeguarded waste management site within the eastern part of the site</u> and the amenity of future residents.</p> <p>South Oxfordshire District Council propose the following modifications to STRAT 9;</p> <p>vi) <del>'a layout that takes into account the mineral safeguarding area to the north of the site and the amenity of future residents.'</del></p> <p>Add new criteria 6 as follows;</p> <p><b><u>Proposals will need to take account of policy EP5: Minerals Safeguarding Areas. This policy encourages developers to extract minerals prior to non-mineral development taking place, where this is practical and environmentally feasible.</u></b></p>	Agree	<p>Agree a factual change is required to remove reference to the location of the minerals safeguarding area and improve reference to policy EP5.</p> <p>Regarding the reference to the Waste Management site, this could be explored further at the Examination Hearings.</p>	<p>Oxfordshire County Council Matter 12 Statement</p> <p>South Oxfordshire District Council Schedule of Proposed Modifications June 2020 and Matter 12 Statement</p>
15	Minerals and Waste	STRAT 10	Add the following criteria to STRAT10; <b><u>'iv) a layout that takes into account the mineral safeguarding area that covers the site and surrounding land and the amenity of future residents.'</u></b>	Agree	No change needed – covered effectively in policies EP5 and STRAT10i - Land at Berinsfield Garden Village	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 15 Statement
16	Minerals and Waste	EP5	Amend policy EP5 as follows; '2. Where development in Minerals Safeguarding Areas cannot be avoided, <del>development must demonstrate that all opportunities for mineral extraction have been fully explored.</del> <b><u>developers are encouraged to extract minerals prior to non-mineral development taking place, where this is practical and environmentally feasible.'</u></b>	Agree	Agree	<p>SODC Response to Inspectors Questions – IC2 -Submitted April 2020</p> <p>And</p> <p>Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)</p>
17	Transport	STRAT 7	Amend STRAT 7ixd as follows; encourages cycling and walking and provides links through the site and to adjacent employment and into the village of Chalgrove <b><u>and other destinations, including enhancing the public rights of way network.</u></b>	Agree	No change needed – any additional improvements can be sought through planning process.	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 11 Statement
18	Transport	STRAT 7	Amend STRAT 7 Paragraph 3 as follows; <b><u>vii) high quality walking and cycling routes within the site;</u></b> <b><u>viii) provision of infrastructure to support public transport through the site.</u></b>	Agree	No change needed – covered effectively in policy STRAT4	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 11 Statement

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19	Transport	STRAT 9	<p>Amend STRAT9 3vii as follows; vii) all necessary transport infrastructure as set out in <u>referring to</u> the Infrastructure Delivery Plan, which is likely to include:</p> <p>a. 2 new junctions onto the A4015 and significant contributions towards the Clifton Hampden bypass, the Didcot to Culham River Crossing and upgrading the A4074/B4015 junction at Golden Balls;</p> <p>b. provide for excellent public transport facilities including, but not limited to, new and improvements to existing cycle and footpaths including contributions for a 'Cycle Premium Route' is proposed between Didcot and Culham; provision of a new cycle bridge and associated connectivity and paths across the River Thames to connect appropriately with Abingdon on Thames to the north of the site; bus improvements including contributions towards the provision of two new scheduled bus services, with a minimum of two buses per hour between Berinsfield, Culham and Abingdon, with options to extend or vary services to <u>locations such as Cowley</u>, Chalgrove and Didcot;</p> <p><u>c. deliver high quality infrastructure to promote walking and cycling, including, but not limited to, provision of a new cycle bridge over the River Thames to connect appropriately with Abingdon-on-Thames and Oxford to the north of the site; to connect with the wider cycle network along the A415 to Berinsfield; new cycle infrastructure towards Didcot; and improvements to the public rights of way network.</u></p> <p>d. contributions to Culham station improvements including longer platforms, public realm, new station building, cycle parking; <u>and</u> potentially car parking.</p>	Agree	No change needed – any additional improvements can be sought through planning process.	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 12 Statement
20	Transport	STRAT 9	Amend Paragraph 4 of STRAT 9 as follows; <u>viii) high quality walking and cycling routes within the site;</u> <u>ix) provision of infrastructure to support public transport through the site.'</u>	Agree	No change needed – covered effectively in policy STRAT4	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 12 Statement
21	Transport	STRAT 10	Amend paragraph 2vi STRAT 10 as follows; provision for excellent public transport facilities <u>including pump priming a scheduled bus service, with a minimum of two buses per hour between Berinsfield, Culham and Abingdon, with options to extend or vary services to Chalgrove and Didcot.'</u>	Agree	Agree	SODC Response to Inspectors Questions – IC4 - Submitted April 2020  And  Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)
22	Transport	STRAT 10	Add to paragraph 2vi as follows; <u>'high quality infrastructure to encourage cycling and walking, and provide links through the site and to adjacent employment and into the village of Berinsfield and to other surrounding locations including Culham; specifically (but not limited to) improving the existing pedestrian / cyclist infrastructure along the A415 from Berinsfield to Culham, and providing for a cycle route from Berinsfield to Oxford.'</u>	Agree	Agree	SODC Response to Inspectors Questions – IC4 - Submitted April 2020  And

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						Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)
23	Transport	STRAT 11	Add the following to STRAT11; Add: <b><u>'v) high quality walking and cycling routes within the site;</u></b> <b><u>vi) provision of infrastructure to support public transport through the site.'</u></b>	Agree	No change needed – covered effectively in policy STRAT4	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 13 Statement
24	Transport	STRAT 12	Add the following to STRAT 12; <b><u>vi) high quality walking and cycling routes within the site;</u></b> <b><u>vii) provision of infrastructure to support public transport through the site.</u></b>	Agree	No change needed – covered effectively in policy STRAT4	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 14 Statement
25	Transport	Paragraphs 4.103 and 4.106	Amend paragraphs 4.103 and 4.106 as follows; Para 4.103  An urban extension on the southern edge of Oxford will promote a sustainable form of development that will in part, assist the city in addressing its housing commitments of the Oxfordshire Growth Deal. <b><u>Northfield is well located for access to employment and services within walking and cycling ranges and the B480 is an existing public transport corridor. There are opportunities to provide improved transport links.</u></b>  Para 4.106  The development would be required to mitigate its impact on the local infrastructure as per the policy requirements below. Developer funding would be expected to contribute towards enabling primary healthcare services to deal with patient growth associated with development and local upgrades to the existing water network and water supply infrastructure <b><u>as well as a range of other matters such as transport.</u></b>	Agree	Agree	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 14 Statement  And  Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)
26	Transport	STRAT 13	Amend STRAT13 as follows; ix) provides a network of green infrastructure that: ... d) retains and incorporates existing public rights of way, <b><u>improves and extends public rights of way where appropriate,</u></b> and supports movement through the site and into adjoining areas by walking and cycling	Agree	Agree	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 16 Statement  And  Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)
27	Transport	STRAT 13	Add the following to STRAT 13; <b><u>x) provides high quality walking and cycling routes within the site;</u></b>  <b><u>xi) provides infrastructure to support public transport through the site</u></b>	Agree	No change needed – covered effectively in policy STRAT4	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 16 Statement
28	Transport	4.114 and 4.115	Amend paragraph 4.115 as follows; Road capacity to the east of Oxford is already under significant pressure, particularly along the A40 and the Headington roundabout. There is currently insufficient road capacity to support new, direct road access between the site and the A40 west of the Barton Park site. <b><u>Therefore, it is anticipated that the main access for the site will come via a remodelling of the Marston interchange with an additional access onto Bayswater Road which will be improved so that the access is safe.</u></b>	Agree	Agree	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 16 Statement  And  Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)
29	Transport	7.15	Add additional sentence to the end of paragraph 7.15 as follows; '...health centres. <b><u>Guidance on cycling and walking design standards, together with</u></b>	Agree	No change needed – significant guidance	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 7 Statement

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			<b><u>other information on active and healthy travel is available on the County Council's website (footnote link).</u></b> In Didcot...'		already covered within the plan	
30	Transport	TRANS 1b	Amend TRANS1b as follows; <del>vii) understand any wider cross-border transport impacts from development and plan for associated mitigation;</del> viii) understand any cross-border transport impacts from development and plan for associated mitigation; ix) support the development and delivery of a new River Thames <del>road</del> <b>River crossing between Culham and Didcot Garden Town, the <u>A4130 widening and road safety improvements from the A34 Milton Interchange to Didcot, a Science Bridge over the A4130 and railway into the former Didcot A power station site and the Clifton Hampden Bypass;</u></b> ... <b><u>xi. Support for the delivery of the Cowley Branch Line</u></b>	Agree	Agree	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 7 Statement  And  Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)
31	Transport	TRANS 3	Update maps for safeguarded routes	Agree	Agree	South Oxfordshire District Council Matter 7 Statement
32	Transport	TRANS 3	Amend paragraph 1 as follows; Land is safeguarded to support the delivery of the following identified transport schemes; .... A new Thames <del>road</del> <b>River</b> -crossing between Culham and Didcot Garden Town	Agree	Agree	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 7 Statement  And  Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)
33	Transport	STRAT 12	Amend the second paragraph 2 in STRAT 12 as follows; v) provision of convenience floorspace.... vi) all necessary transport improvements through direct mitigation or contributions to new and improved infrastructure, <del>as set out in referring to</del> <b>referring to</b> the Infrastructure Delivery Plan, which is likely to include: a. provision and contribution towards cycling and walking infrastructure <b>and the public rights of way</b> network on and off site ensuring the site is well connected to Oxford City, <b>and</b> appropriate surrounding villages; b. contributions towards <del>the financial costs of the engineering works to a</del> <b>scheme to</b> improve the B480 route towards Cowley for buses, <b>pedestrians and cyclists;</b> c. provision of infrastructure/financial support for Eastern Arc-Culham-Science Vale bus service ( <del>assumed access point near Oxford Rd/Watlington Road junction</del> ); d. contributions towards improvements to bus services along the B480 corridor and through the site to Oxford City and nearby villages e. <b>upgrades to the existing junctions on the Oxford Eastern bypass (A4142), including Cowley junction</b>	Agree	Agree	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 14 Statement  And  Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)
34	Infrastructure	INF1	Add the following point to the end of point 3; <b><u>This applies equally where external funding for infrastructure necessary for development has been secured (including where the infrastructure is delivered ahead of</u></b>	Agree	Agree	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 7 Statement

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			<u>development), on the expectation that funding shall be recovered from development’.</u>			And Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)
35	Infrastructure	7.10	Add the following paragraph; <b><u>‘Where funding is secured for infrastructure, there will be an expectation that funding will be recovered and recycled and obtained from developer contributions, retrospectively. Where forward funding is secured it will not circumvent the need for a development to contribute towards the cost of such infrastructure if such infrastructure is relevant to the development of the site.</u></b>  <b><u>Infrastructure and services required as a consequence of development, and provision for their maintenance, will be sought from developers, and secured through developer contributions.</u></b>	Agree	Agree	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 7 Statement  And Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)
36	Other	STRAT 3	(The changes below are further modifications to those proposed in PSD05)  Within the Didcot Garden Town masterplan area, the Local Plan will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote Didcot as the gateway to Science Vale;</li> <li>• Encourage <b>Identify</b> Didcot as the focus of sustainable major new development for Science Vale;</li> <li>• Support <del>and</del> <b>the delivery of</b> ambitious Green Infrastructure provision and <del>plan</del> safe, healthy and active spaces, supported by Policy ENV5;</li> <li>• Focus on enhancing rail services to Didcot, complemented by measures to <del>expand</del> <b>enhance</b> Didcot Parkway station and improve access by <del>all</del> <b>sustainable</b> modes of transport;</li> <li>• Strike a balance to provide for housing growth <del>balanced with</del> <b>and</b> economic growth <del>in Didcot</del>;</li> <li>• Assist in <b>having policies supporting the acquisition of</b> acquiring significant funding investment <del>from the Housing Infrastructure Fund</del> and safeguarding land to implement infrastructure schemes;</li> <li>• Enable flexibility and resilience to plan for future changes, including changing community needs, addressing climate change impacts, supporting technology and scientific advances in infrastructure provision;</li> <li>• <del>Deliver</del> <b>Require</b> infrastructure to unlock <del>the ability for potential future opportunities</del> <b>development</b> in Didcot Town Centre, Didcot and the wider area;</li> <li>• <del>Continue to build out</del> <b>Support the continued delivery of development in the</b> Science Vale and Didcot Enterprise Zones;</li> </ul>	Agree	Agree	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 10 Statement  And Schedule of Modifications June 2020 (PSD48)
37	Other	STRAT 12	Add the following to STRAT12; <u>v) a high-quality development that integrates with Blackbird Leys and Greater Leys;</u>  <u>vi) improvement of existing community facilities and services at Blackbird Leys and Greater Leys;</u>	Agree	No changes necessary – overall policy framework is sufficient to achieve high-quality development.	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 14 Statement

Number	Topic	Plan Ref	Proposed Modification – These modifications were requested by the County Council and have in some instances been amended/or drafted by the Council in order to seek agreement in preparation of this Statement of Common Ground	County Comments	SODC Comments	Document modification referenced
38	Other	STRAT 13	Remove all references to the Sandhills part of the draft allocation and delete from Policy Map.	Agree	The Council disagrees with removing the Sandhills part of the allocation and considers the whole allocation to be sound. This could be explored further at the Examination Hearings	Oxfordshire County Council Matter 16 Statement

**Appendix 2 – Status of soundness Issues raised through Oxfordshire County Council Reg 19 response**

Ref	Soundness Issue raised by Oxfordshire County Council in Regulation 19 response	Oxfordshire County Council Comments	South Oxfordshire District Council response
1	A successful Housing Infrastructure Fund bid for Didcot Garden Town is required to enable significant numbers of further housing in South Oxfordshire. The outcome of the bid, which was submitted in January 2019, is at present not known.	Resolved. HIF bid has been successful. See paragraph 3 of County Statement for Matter 7.	Resolved – Bid has been successful
2	The CIL that exists in South Oxfordshire does not provide sufficiently for the necessary funding of infrastructure, particularly in respect of the proposed site allocations but also in respect of any other sites that may come forward, for example through neighbourhood plans. While revision of the CIL is a separate process to the Local Plan, the timetable for CIL revision should align to enable development in accordance with the housing trajectory. In addition, the Local Plan needs to be clear about developer funding of infrastructure, including in situations where the infrastructure is provided in advance of development.	Partially resolved. See paragraph 1 of County Statement for Matter 7.	Resolved – IDP has been updated in April 2020. CIL is less of a concern given changes in September 2019.
3	Additional text should be included within the Local Plan to ensure that the development of all strategic sites takes place in a manner which makes the best use of sustainable resources and is future-proofed.	Partially resolved. Some modifications agreed. See County Statement for Matter 8.	Resolved – modifications address this concern.
4	Further evidence is needed to be confident that the infrastructure challenges associated with development at Chalgrove Airfield can be addressed and the developer is able to provide evidence of viable delivery. If confidence can be achieved, then the Local Plan will need to be amended to better set out the infrastructure	Resolved. Evidence updated. See County Statement for Matter 11.	Resolved – IDP has been updated in April 2020.

Ref	Soundness Issue raised by Oxfordshire County Council in Regulation 19 response	Oxfordshire County Council Comments	South Oxfordshire District Council response
	requirements and likely phasing of development having regard to the timescales for providing the necessary infrastructure.		
5	The Local Plan needs to clearly state the infrastructure challenges associated with development at Culham and Berinsfield and the need to ensure that these can be resolved. As part of the work for the Housing Infrastructure Fund bid it has been established that both these sites are dependent on the infrastructure in that bid being funded particularly the new Culham-Didcot Thames Crossing and Clifton Hampden Bypass and no development is possible until this infrastructure is secured.	Resolved. Evidence updated. HIF bid has been successful.	Resolved – IDP has been updated in April 2020.
6	The Local Plan needs to clearly state the infrastructure requirements for the Grenoble Road and Northfield sites. Further consideration should be given to whether development can proceed more quickly.	Resolved. Evidence updated.	Resolved – Trajectories have been updated.
7	Further evidence is needed to support an allocation of land around Bayswater Brook. At present there is a significant level of uncertainty about what highways mitigation is required and whether it can be funded; and whether other constraints such as the importance of archaeological remains restricts the potential for development.	Partially resolved. Archaeological evaluation is being undertaken. Some evidence has been updated. See County Statement for Matter 16.	Unresolved – To be discussed further at the examination hearings