

## SUPPORTING DOCUMENT

# DUTY TO COOPERATE STATEMENT

## Joint Local Plan

Pre-submission Publication Version

(Regulation 19)



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# 1 Introduction

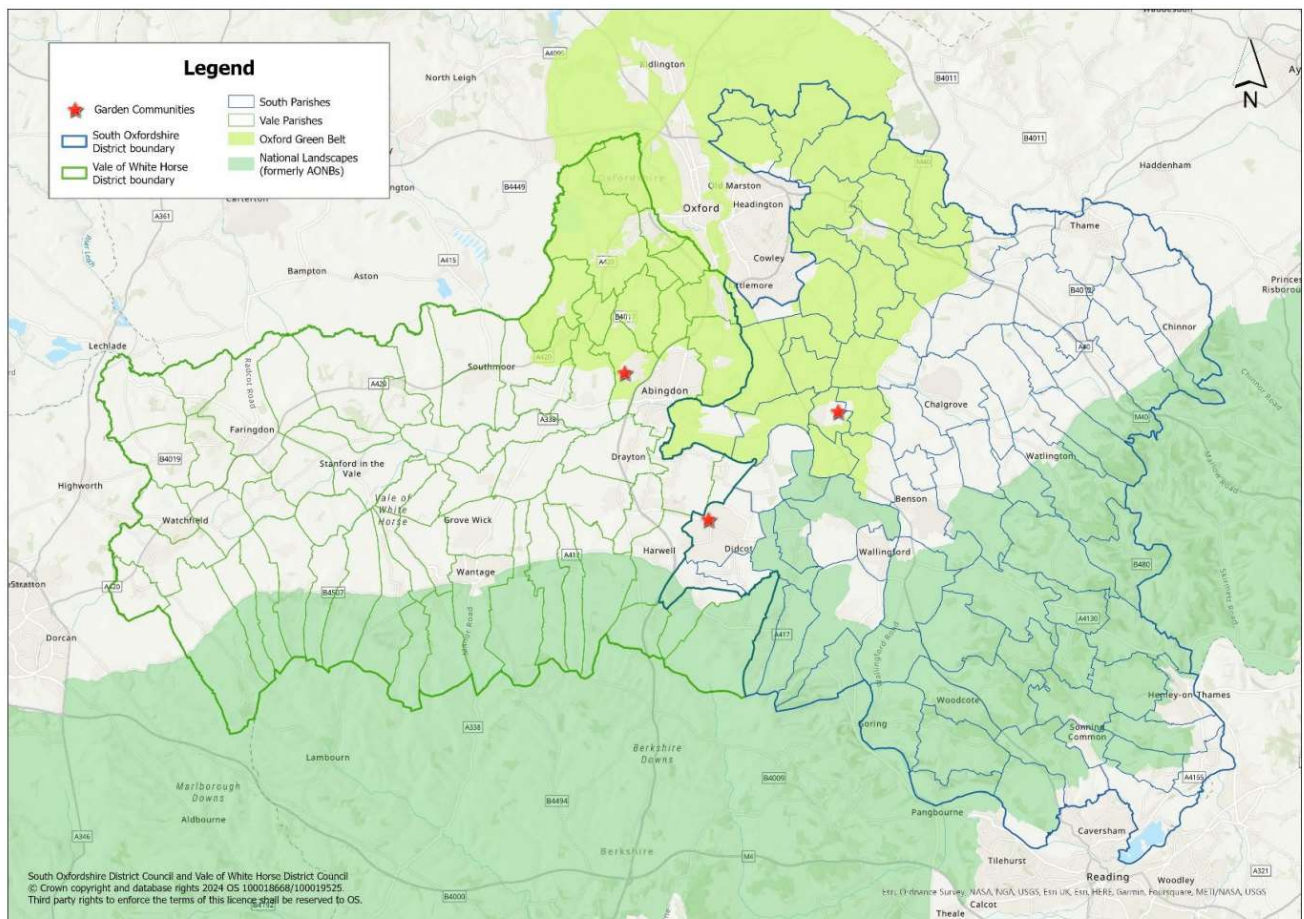
## South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse Context

- 1.1 South Oxfordshire District Council and Vale of White Horse District Council are jointly producing a new Joint Local Plan for 2041 to cover both districts. This Duty to Co-operate statement is published alongside the Joint Local Plan Regulation 19.
- 1.2 It records how we have engaged with the required bodies and other organisations in the preparation of the draft Local Plan, and how we comply with the Duty to Co-operate. We will update this statement for submission of the Joint Local Plan.
- 1.3 The Councils have engaged with the necessary prescribed bodies and other organisations in the preparation of the draft Joint Local Plan through formal joint working, commissioning shared evidence, various types of meetings, and engaging in other partnership working.
- 1.4 We have also engaged under the Duty to Co-operate with other neighbouring Councils, organisations and bodies to help resolve strategic matters relating to their own strategies, plans and priorities, and we will be preparing separate Statements of Common Ground (SOCG) with all councils and bodies that we need to engage with to prepare a statement.
- 1.5 South and Vale Councils form the southernmost parts of the County of Oxfordshire<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> An interactive map produced by the Government, showing a map of Councils in England and Wales is available through this link: [Map of councils in England - Google My Maps](#)





1.6 Within Oxfordshire, we work closely with our neighbours in Cherwell District, Oxford City and West Oxfordshire. We have all signed up to the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision<sup>2</sup>, which is Oxfordshire long-term vision for sustainable development, and a guide for the development of our plans.

1.7 We also share physical boundaries with the authorities of the Cotswolds, Buckinghamshire, Gloucestershire, Reading, Swindon, West Berkshire, Wiltshire and Wokingham.

### Why do we have a Duty to Co-operate?

1.8 [Section 33A\(6\) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004](#) made the Duty to Co-operate a legal requirement.

1.9 Local planning authorities remain under a Duty to Co-operate with **each other**, and with other **prescribed bodies**<sup>3</sup>, on **strategic matters** that cross administrative boundaries. The Duty to Co-operate requires us to engage

<sup>2</sup> [Oxfordshire's Strategic Vision for Long-Term Sustainable Development \(futureoxfordshirepartnership.org\)](https://futureoxfordshirepartnership.org/)

<sup>3</sup> the bodies prescribed for the purposes of section 33A(1)(c) of the Act, as set out in The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended)

constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis to maximise the effectiveness of development plan documents in relation to **strategic planning matters**. Regulation 4 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended) specifies which bodies this duty applies to'.

1.10 We need to demonstrate at examination of the Local Plan that the Duty to Co-operate has been complied with in the preparation of the plan.

1.11 Importantly, South and Vale have agreed to prepare a Joint Local Plan together as neighbouring authorities, which is permitted by [section 28 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004](#). A Joint Local Plan will be especially helpful where existing planned development sites straddle the district boundary, like at Didcot.

1.12 The previous government planned to replace the Duty to Co-operate with an 'alignment test'. The Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023 will revoke the Duty to Co-operate, but at the time of the approval of the Joint Local Plan Regulation 19 Publication version, the new government has confirmed it plans to keep and strengthen the duty, proposing new mechanisms for cross boundary strategic planning. The duty remains in place and needs to be complied with.

### **Who do we Co-operate with?**

1.13 All of our neighbouring Councils where South or Vale share a physical boundary include:

- Buckinghamshire Council;
- Cherwell District Council;
- Cotswolds District Council;
- Gloucestershire County Council;
- Oxford City Council;
- Oxfordshire County Council;
- Reading Borough Council;
- Swindon Borough Council;
- West Berkshire District Council;
- West Oxfordshire District Council;
- Wiltshire Council;
- Wokingham District Council.

1.14 The Duty to Co-operate 'prescribed bodies' include:

- The Environment Agency;
- Historic England;
- Natural England;

- The Civil Aviation Authority;
- Homes England;
- Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board;
- The National Health Service Commissioning Board (NHS England);
- The Office of Rail and Road;
- The Highways Authority (Oxfordshire County Council);
- National Highways.

1.15 We are also required to proactively engage with other partnerships as part of the preparation of the Local Plan. These include:

- Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (abolished during the plan-making process with support withdrawn from April 2024 and in our case now hosted within Oxfordshire County Council);
- Oxfordshire Local Nature Partnership (LNP).

### **What are strategic planning matters?**

1.16 Strategic matters are things that relate to sustainable development, use of land or infrastructure that has, or would have a significant impact on at least two planning areas.

1.17 The strategic planning matters are not prescribed, and authorities will have specific strategic planning matters relative to their issues in their area.

1.18 South and Vale first identified some strategic matters during the first Joint Local Plan issues consultation stage (Regulation 18 part 1), and these strategic matters that related to our anticipated Joint Local Plan's impacts were:

1. Addressing climate change;
2. Provision of infrastructure;
3. Conserving and enhancing our natural and historic environments;
4. Continuing to meet the existing agreed Unmet Need of Oxford City;
5. Joint evidence base.

1.19 After reviewing the feedback that we received during the Joint Local Plan consultation issues stage consultation, we proposed some edits to the strategic matters.

1.20 Our Joint Local Plan strategic matters include:

- 1. Housing need and supply, including affordable housing, and the provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers;**
- 2. The supply of retail and employment land;**
- 3. The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links;**
- 4. Conserving and enhancing our natural and historic environments;**

- 5. Addressing climate change;**
- 6. Joint evidence base.**

1.21 Our Joint Local Plan confirms that South and Vale has no unmet housing need which we need to ask neighbours to accommodate, and also no unmet employment need or unmet retail need arising from our evidence.

### **What are Statements of Common Ground?**

1.22 South and Vale have strategic matters to engage on and discuss with other neighbouring Local Authorities in the preparation of their local plans. These have been subject to a process of engagement, and we ultimately aim to either receive no Duty to Co-operate Regulation 19 concerns, or the production of Statements of Common Ground where they are required.

1.23 These discussions relate to the neighbouring authorities Local Plan development, generally covering matters including:

- Housing need and supply including gypsy and traveller needs;
- Provision of infrastructure;
- Supply of employment land;
- Conserving and enhancing our natural and historic environments.

1.24 To demonstrate effective and ongoing joint working, we are preparing and maintaining Statements of Common Ground with the Oxfordshire authorities. For the emerging round of local plan-making within Oxfordshire, it was Oxford City Local Plan who submitted their plan first, and for their submission version Local Plan, all Oxfordshire Local Authorities produced a Joint Oxfordshire Statement of Common Ground. We are preparing an update to the Joint Oxfordshire Statement of Common Ground to focus on the South and Vale Joint Local Plan. We have also engaged on unilateral statements with any relevant neighbouring authorities who have asked to prepare statements.

1.25 We are preparing statements with prescribed bodies who wish to prepare a statement about the Joint Local Plan content, and we have approached other prescribed bodies to ask for engagement on further statements.

## **2 Engagement on strategic planning matters**

- 2.1 This section of the statement explains what we have done to ensure that the Joint Local Plan has been prepared with all necessary engagement strategic matters explained in section 1, and other engagement with our Duty to Co-operate partners.

### **Buckinghamshire**

- 2.2 Buckinghamshire Council is a unitary authority with a shared border to the north and east of South Oxfordshire District. There are often shared matters regarding services and facilities in key towns and at railway stations along this boundary, with the geography meaning that residents at some of our settlements like Thame and Chinnor, which are located close to the county boundary, look to higher order services in Buckinghamshire (Aylesbury, Princes Risborough, Marlow) and benefit from nearby Haddenham Railway station.
- 2.3 Buckinghamshire Council has engaged with the South and Vale Joint Local Plan, although at Regulation 18 (part 2) stage they commented that they did not see a need to hold a meeting about the contents or to engage with us to prepare a Statement of Common Ground.
- 2.4 South and Vale engaged on the Buckinghamshire Local Plan Duty to Co-operate Draft Scoping Matrix Consultation in early 2021. Buckinghamshire held a Vision and Objectives consultation in June 2023, and following review South and Vale determined that no comments were necessary.
- 2.5 At the time of writing this statement, South and Vale JLP have no disputed strategic matters with Buckinghamshire Council. South and Vale updated Buckinghamshire to alert to updated timetable for the JLP in the Local Development Scheme in September 2024, inviting engagement on our Regulation 19 JLP. Once Buckinghamshire have reviewed their position with respect to the Regulation 19 version of the plan, we have requested further engagement to discuss the production of a Statement of Common Ground.

### **Oxfordshire**

- 2.6 This section considers engagement with Oxfordshire County Council as well as engagement with all Oxfordshire Authorities collectively.
- 2.7 There is a requirement to align with the plans prepared at local and county level, including the Minerals and Waste Plan prepared by the County Council.

Oxfordshire County Council Minerals and Waste:



- 2.8 Oxfordshire County Council provides support and engagement in the development of minerals and waste policy and other minerals related issues on specific sites which have greatly assisted the development of policies in the JLP. South and Vale are awaiting engagement on the next draft consultation on the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Plan, and we receive updates on this through the Oxfordshire Planning Policy Officers group (OPPO).

Oxfordshire Future Oxfordshire Partnership (formerly the Oxfordshire Growth Board):

- 2.9 FOP's purpose is to deliver the Strategic Vision for Sustainable Development in Oxfordshire which all six councils have adopted, and to:

- Coordinate local efforts to manage economic, housing and infrastructure development in a way that is inclusive and maximises local social and environmental benefits;
- Support the development of local policy that meets the UK Government's stated aim of net zero carbon by 2050, and contributes towards biodiversity gain whilst embracing the changes needed for a low carbon world; and
- Seek to secure funding in the pursuit of these aims and oversee the delivery of related work programmes delegated to it by the joint committee's constituent local authority members.

- 2.10 FOP meets six times a year to discuss local issues, often in a non-decision-making capacity. It is supported by four Advisory Sub-Groups (Infrastructure, Environment, Housing and Planning), a Scrutiny Panel and a small team of officers who are tasked with delivering on elements of the Partnership's work programme, and South and Vale contribute and attend these groups. It is responsible both for decisions about how Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal money is spent and for overseeing the work undertaken to deliver the agreed outcomes. Importantly, FOP was the vehicle for agreeing the Housing and Growth Deal, plus the previous work on the Oxford City unmet need and it initiated the work on the Oxfordshire 2050 Plan.

Oxfordshire County Council Lead Local Flood Authority:

- 2.11 Flood risk and drainage policy in the JLP recognises that major developments need to comply with the latest local standards and guidance for surface water drainage which is produced by the Lead Local Flood Authority (Oxfordshire County Council). Engagement with the County Council on draft policy text prior to the Regulation 18 consultation and to feed into the Regulation 19 version has taken place effectively.

Healthy Places:

2.12 Oxfordshire Health Impact Assessment Toolkit was approved by the Future Oxfordshire Partnership in January 2021 for use by all six Oxfordshire Local Authorities.

A Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is a tool used to identify the health impacts of a plan or project and to develop recommendations to maximise the positive impacts and minimise the negative impacts, while maintaining a focus on addressing health inequalities. By bringing such health considerations to the fore, HIAs add value to the planning process.

2.13 South and Vale regularly attend an Oxfordshire based Healthy Place Shaping working group which has helped shape the approach taken in the JLP, and has ensured alignment with Oxfordshire strategic health aims.

Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OxIS):

2.14 The Oxfordshire Infrastructure Strategy (OxIS)<sup>4</sup> was commissioned by the [Future Oxfordshire Partnership](#), involving the county's six local authorities and Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership, intending to help prioritising our infrastructure requirements to 2040 and beyond. A planning policy officer sits on the working group. There was a stage 1 study looking to 2040, and stage 2 is planned to look beyond that, with the work currently at commissioning stage. The stage 1 outputs remain valid for the planned growth within South and Vale.

Oxfordshire Local Industrial Strategy and Investment Plan:

2.15 The Oxfordshire Local Industrial Strategy (LIS)<sup>5</sup> was published in July 2019, and in August 2020 the LIS was accompanied by the Oxfordshire Investment Plan<sup>6</sup>. This was prepared in partnership and led by the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership.

2.16 The LIS was underpinned by three guiding principles:

- Invest in Oxfordshire, deliver for the UK - Ideas, products and service innovation can create jobs across the country, reinforcing Oxfordshire's position as a net contributor to the UK.
- Oxfordshire – the UK's 'innovation engine' - No other part of the UK has the breadth and depth of assets, knowledge capability, skills and business capacity – making Oxfordshire a leading location for investment in the UK.

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<sup>4</sup> [https://www.oxfordshiregrowthboard.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/oxis\\_stage2.pdf](https://www.oxfordshiregrowthboard.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/oxis_stage2.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.oxfordshirelep.com/sites/default/files/uploads/Oxfordshire-SINGLE-PAGE\\_1.pdf](https://www.oxfordshirelep.com/sites/default/files/uploads/Oxfordshire-SINGLE-PAGE_1.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> [https://www.oxfordshirelep.com/sites/default/files/uploads/The%20Oxfordshire%20Investment%20Plan%20-%20August%202020\\_0.pdf](https://www.oxfordshirelep.com/sites/default/files/uploads/The%20Oxfordshire%20Investment%20Plan%20-%20August%202020_0.pdf)

- Global Oxfordshire, Global Britain - The key sectors and technologies that we excel in has global reach, meaning we are a critical driver for UK economic growth post-Brexit.

2.17 In terms of the strategic matter of provision of infrastructure, the LIS makes clear that Oxfordshire should enable greater connectivity and accessibility, especially across key growth locations. This has been reflected in the spatial strategy of the Joint Local Plan, which supports delivery of outstanding allocations with the well-advanced plans for infrastructure to go with them, and supports our garden communities and Science Vale as key locations for development up to 2041. Oxfordshire's critical assets that sit within South and Vale are also supported by the Joint Local Plan, with ambitions for their growth or re-development.

#### Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal:

2.18 The Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal was signed in 2018 by all Oxfordshire Councils and the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership, and it was also approved by central government. The deal was for £215 million in exchange for the planning and delivery of 100,000 homes in the County. The last round of Local Plan's achieved this milestone figure and planned growth in the County slightly exceeds this target. Our Joint Local Plan covers the overlaps with some of the time periods over which these homes will need to be delivered, therefore the Oxfordshire Growth Deal remains relevant for us to consider. An aligned approach with other Oxfordshire authorities and the County Council (who administer the Growth Deal), is needed so that we all meet our duties consistently. Our JLP approach reflects the continued importance of the Growth Deal, and this is evident in our consideration of the Growth Deal in determining what our proposed housing requirement should be.

#### Oxfordshire Gypsy and Travellers:

2.19 We have commissioned and are undertaking a study jointly with the other Oxfordshire authorities to identify the accommodation needs for Gypsies, Travellers, and Travelling Showpeople (GTAA) over the plan period. This assessment will tell us the number of pitches or plots each council needs to identify in their local plan. At this stage, those outcomes are not yet complete, but from emerging information shared with all Oxfordshire Councils by the consultants preparing the assessment, we do not expect there to be strategic matters relating specifically to Gypsy and Travellers to be resolved jointly.

#### Meeting employment needs:

2.20 Employment Strategy has been a regularly featured item for OPPO agendas. Through OPPO, Oxfordshire authorities and OxLEP (now part of the County

Council) have engaged on some employment strategy matters such as Community Employment Plans. Our Policy JT1 has taken account of both the Oxfordshire Local Industrial Strategy and the Oxfordshire Strategic Vision. The employment need requirements in South and Vale and the sector requirements that are evidenced in our Employment Land Needs Assessment can be met within South and Vale. The supply of employment land and premises exceeds the projected future demand for employment. This is a healthy position for the market to function efficiently and to allow effectively for churn, choice and flexibility. There are therefore no wider employment strategy impacts beyond South and Vale, and we have no requests for unmet employment need from other Oxfordshire authorities.

#### Pathways to a Zero Carbon Oxfordshire:

2.21 Pathways to a Zero Carbon Oxfordshire<sup>7</sup> was published in 2021, and it was prepared and funded with consortium of key stakeholders in Oxfordshire including the Local Authorities, with the aim of examining how Oxfordshire can sustain the momentum of the last decade to achieve net-zero emissions. South and Vale have a dedicated Climate Action team with officers sitting on PAZCO working group. The PAZCO reports recommends Solar PV as being Oxfordshire's largest renewable energy generation resource and the stresses the importance of increased energy storage capacity to bridge seasonal gaps and provide grid flexibility. We recognise that Solar PV will contribute significantly towards meeting our net zero targets, and therefore the Joint Local Plan supports it, alongside battery storage and a range of other renewable energy opportunities like hydro-power and potentially onshore wind (noting the landscape constraints). The JLP evidence has been developed to help identify and map suitable areas for these schemes to ensure they are situated in appropriate locations, and these are included on the Policies Map.

#### Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessments:

2.22 A joint methodology for undertaking Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessments (HELAAAs) consistently across Oxfordshire was jointly prepared by Cherwell District Council, Oxford City Council, South Oxfordshire District Council, Vale of White Horse District Council and West Oxfordshire District Council, working in partnership with Oxfordshire County Council. It was agreed in the joint methodology that Oxfordshire Authorities would engage with each other on the assumptions that we have made in our HELAAAs. In August 2023, South and Vale undertook a bespoke informal engagement with all Oxfordshire authorities, seeking comments or other feedback on the HELAAAs density assumptions, employment assumptions and developable area assumptions which was included within our preparation of the South and Vale HELAA. Based on the joint methodology, South and Vale have collaborated to produce

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<sup>7</sup> Pathways to a Zero Carbon Oxfordshire (PaZCO) 2021: [www.eci.ox.ac.uk/sites/default/files/2022-09/PazCo-final.pdf](http://www.eci.ox.ac.uk/sites/default/files/2022-09/PazCo-final.pdf)

a HELAA covering both of our districts, matching the boundaries of the Joint Local Plan area.

#### Habitats Regulation Assessment:

2.23 Through OPPO and officer-led meetings with those responsible for District level HRAs and Natural England, we have been collaborating to ensure that our duties are discharged effectively with regards to the cumulative impacts of development in all of our adopted plan, and effective testing of emerging plans takes place. HRA has been progressing with collaboration to the best that Oxfordshire authorities can achieve given their different stages of plan-making, and further engagement with Natural England is needed in the Regulation 19 period prior to submission of the JLP.

#### Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF):

2.24 The HIF1 for Didcot and surrounding areas is a major infrastructure project with a deal with Government. The funding has been combined with investment from Homes England and the former Oxfordshire LEP and is fundamental to the delivery of homes in Didcot and the wider area. The permission for the HIF1 schemes is awaiting a decision from the Planning Inspectorate following a Public Inquiry in Spring 2024.

#### **Cherwell**

2.25 Please see the Oxfordshire-wide commentary above on engagements with Cherwell District Council.

2.26 South and Vale have very good engagement with Cherwell, which is structured and led mostly through the Oxfordshire Planning Policy Officers (OPPO) group. There has also been effective informal information sharing and support between officers particularly on the Habitats Regulation Assessment coordination, Green Infrastructure and transport, with engagements and responses to each other's formal consultations as necessary.

#### **Wokingham**

2.27 Wokingham Borough Council has a border to the east of South Oxfordshire District.

2.28 South and Vale have good engagement with Wokingham. There has been effective informal information sharing and support between officers, and formal meetings and responses as engagements as necessary.

2.29 Wokingham formally wrote to many of its neighbours in October 2023 asking if they would be able to assist in meeting the anticipated unmet need for



Warehousing and Industrial land arising from Wokingham Borough. Our JLP process and evidence on employment were not complete when we responded in November 2023, and we replied to Wokingham highlighting this, as well as responding that given our districts' distance, and understanding the functional relationship between our districts and the poor connectivity that exists between us, initially we do not believe that a reasonable option for meeting Wokingham's unmet need exists in our districts. We anticipated this as being a matter for the Wokingham Local Plan Update to resolve, and we would continue to engage as necessary.

- 2.30 Wokingham Borough Council is in the process of preparing a new Local Plan, known as the Local Plan Update. Wokingham also formally wrote to many of its neighbours in October and December 2023 asking if they would be able to assist in meeting the anticipated unmet need for Gypsy and Traveller provision arising from Wokingham Borough. With our JLP process and evidence on Gypsy and Travellers not complete at that time, we replied to Wokingham highlighting this, as well as responding that given our districts' distance, and understanding the functional relationship between our districts and the poor connectivity that exists between us, initially we do not believe that a reasonable option for meeting Wokingham's unmet need for Gypsy and Traveller provision exists in our districts. We anticipated this as being a matter for the Wokingham Local Plan Update to resolve, and planned for further engagement as necessary.
- 2.31 In April 2024 Wokingham and South and Vale representatives held a productive meeting to engage on the Joint Local Plan and Wokingham's emerging Local Plan, following updated contact made once the JLP Regulation 18 (part 2) was published. We discussed Local Plan timetables, an overview of evidence base, Wokingham's options and reasonable alternatives included those close to the borders, Wokingham's emerging preferred options, unmet needs for employment and Gypsy and Traveller pitches again, local energy standards, the third Thames crossing and our next engagement steps.
- 2.32 At the time of writing this statement, South and Vale JLP has a key strategic cross boundary matter of the third Thames crossing with Wokingham. Although there remains a disagreement on this matter, there are no policy proposals in the JLP material to this location. South and Vale updated Wokingham to alert to updated timetable for the JLP in the Local Development Scheme in September 2024, inviting engagement on our Regulation 19 JLP. Wokingham then informed South and Vale of their intention to do the same. Both of our Regulation 19 consultations are launching within a few weeks, and our planned Submissions will also align. Both parties have been sent links to each other's council papers including each respective Regulation 19 versions. Once Wokingham have reviewed their position with respect to the Regulation 19 version of the plan, we intend to engage with a meeting to discuss the

production of a Statement of Common Ground that we can submit with our plans.

## **Reading**

- 2.33 Reading Borough Council has a shared border to the South of South Oxfordshire.
- 2.34 South and Vale generally have productive engagement with Reading. There has been effective informal information sharing about Local Plans and Reading's Local Transport Plan development, some formal meetings and responses as engagements as necessary.
- 2.35 Reading and South and Vale have had a fairly aligned timetable for Local Plan production, with Reading currently preparing their Local Plan Review for Regulation 19 stage at the same time as South and Vale. Formal engagement has focussed on housing and transport matters, with some discussion held on viability, climate change and Gypsies and Travellers.
- 2.36 There remains a disagreement about the need to safeguard a proposal for a new bridge crossing the River Thames north of Reading and provision of mobility hubs (park and ride etc). An outline business case for the crossing remains an aspiration for Reading, but it will be necessary to plan ahead for such a scheme or another alternative scheme to a crossing if the project is to progress. Although there remains a disagreement on this matter, there are no policy proposals in the JLP material to this location.
- 2.37 On housing need, Reading Borough Council wrote to neighbours on 23 August 2024 regarding potential unmet housing needs of Reading and the ability to accommodate unmet needs, should they arise. We responded formally on 17 September 2024 to confirm that we have remained engaged on their emerging evidence base so we understood the context of the request made. We also stated that need should be fully justified and considered necessary within South and Vale, it would need to be explored through a joint exploration of alternatives. We also observed that both South and Vale's current adopted plan spatial strategies and the emerging spatial strategy in our Joint Local Plan does not envisage significant growth near to Reading. This is because the area near to Reading has a number of physical, infrastructure and landscapes constraints in particular. Finally, we expressed that we will engage with Reading forthcoming Regulation 19 publication Local Plan in due course, and we will confirm our stance to unmet need in this Duty to Co-operate statements or Statements of Common Ground if required.
- 2.38 At the time of writing this statement, South and Vale JLP the strategic cross boundary matters of housing and transport have featured in our engagements with Reading. South and Vale updated Reading to alert updated timetable for

the JLP in the Local Development Scheme in September 2024, inviting engagement on our Regulation 19 JLP. Once Reading Borough Council have reviewed their position with respect to the Regulation 19 version of the plan, we have requested further engagement to discuss the production of a Statement of Common Ground.

## **West Berkshire**

- 2.39 West Berkshire is a unitary authority located to the south of both South and Vale districts and includes the town of Newbury. It is a lengthy shared boundary, and we therefore have many cross border spatial relationships.
- 2.40 South and Vale generally have productive engagement with West Berkshire. There has been effective informal information sharing about employment evidence and a range of other planning matters which we share, some formal meetings about the Duty to Co-operate and responses and formal letters as engagements as necessary.
- 2.41 West Berkshire Local Plan is at examination, at the time of this statement, with further hearings scheduled for October 2024. Before West Berkshire Council's intervention by the Secretary of State to direct them to undertake the Local Plan examination, their Council had intended to consider withdrawing the Local Plan from the examination.
- 2.42 In January 2023 West Berkshire wrote to authorities (within one hour's drive of Newbury) with a formal request for assistance meeting an unmet need for office and industrial floorspace. Our JLP process and evidence on employment were not complete when we responded in March 2023 and we stated that we were not in a position to assist with unmet employment needs, before the submission of West Berkshire's Local Plan. The Councils representatives met in March 2023 and we noted a possible offer from another authority to prepare a Statements of Common Ground to meet some of West Berkshire's unmet need for offices. West Berkshire then submitted that plan for examination.
- 2.43 In November 2023 we engaged on the West Berkshire GTAA Development Plan and Call for Sites, but as a site focussed consultation, we made no formal comments.
- 2.44 Nutrient neutrality is a shared matter for Vale and West Berkshire. The River Lambourn SAC is a globally rare chalk stream, of international importance for the conservation of biodiversity, but has been assessed as being in an unfavourable ecological condition. This unfavourable condition is primarily due to nutrient pollution (specifically phosphorus) from agriculture and sewerage. The River Lambourn SAC is located in West Berkshire, however part of Vale of White Horse falls within the River Lambourn SAC's hydrological catchment area. Therefore, the council is required by law to consider whether granting

planning permission in this area would have an adverse impact on the River Lambourn SAC. Whilst this requirement may be removed if the situation improves, it is expected to remain in place for the foreseeable future. Policy NH2 responds to this matter by requiring that development within the River Lambourn SAC nutrient neutrality catchment area that would result in additional overnight accommodation, and any other development that could result in the input of additional nutrients within the identified catchment, must demonstrate nutrient neutrality in relation to phosphorus. We have added the affected area to the Proposed Policies Map.

2.45 Pollution sources and receptors - The Joint Local Plan includes Policy CE10, which makes provisions for development proposals in proximity to the Harwell Nuclear Restoration Services (NRS). The Nuclear Restoration Services Harwell site located within the Vale of White Horse District, has a 3km Outer Consultation Zone (OCZ) set by the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR). This OCZ extends 3k from the perimeter of the site, which means that a portion of this 3km zone lies within the West Berkshire Council area. We have decided to exclude the part of the OCZ that lies within West Berkshire from our Proposed Policies Map because policies maps should only cover the Local Plan area that we have powers to make, but it is important to highlight its presence and cross-boundary nature and we have done that with West Berkshire. There are associated consultation requirements for development within this zone that can be found online [here](#).

2.46 At the time of writing this statement South and Vale JLP has no strategic matters in dispute with West Berkshire, although progress on the West Berkshire Local Plan examination will need to be followed to ensure this remains the case and other matters of housing need, transport and environmental cross boundary matters will be continuously engaged upon. South and Vale updated West Berkshire to alert to updated timetable for the JLP in the Local Development Scheme in September 2024, inviting engagement on our Regulation 19 JLP. Once West Berkshire District Council have reviewed their position with respect to the Regulation 19 version of the plan, we have requested further engagement to discuss the production of a Statement of Common Ground.

## **Wiltshire**

2.47 Wiltshire Council is a Unitary Authority which shares a very short border to the south-east of Vale of White Horse District near Swindon.

2.48 Given the very short border, we have proportionally less formal engagement on shared cross boundary issues with Wiltshire. There has been effective informal engagement on cross boundary matters which we share, some workshop attendances and also formal responses as engagements as necessary.

- 2.49 We have engaged together on the Oxfordshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment and the Wiltshire Gypsy and Traveller Development Plan Document, attending consultation workshops on both programmes of work, although Wiltshire is on a slightly later timetable.
- 2.50 In November 2023 South and Vale last engaged on the Wiltshire Local Plan, with a formal response to their Regulation 19 period. We noted that there were no unmet need issues arising from their emerging plan and no other shared strategic matters to resolve. We therefore had no formal consultation responses to make.
- 2.51 At the time of writing this statement, South and Vale JLP has no strategic matters with Wiltshire. South and Vale updated Wiltshire to alert to updated timetable for the JLP in the Local Development Scheme in September 2024, inviting engagement on our Regulation 19 JLP. Once Wiltshire have reviewed their position with respect to the Regulation 19 version of the plan, we have requested further engagement to discuss the production of a Statement of Common Ground.

## **Swindon**

- 2.52 Swindon Borough Council has a shared boundary with Vale of White Horse to the west of the Vale.
- 2.53 South and Vale have very productive engagement with Swindon. Most engagement is structured in regular formal Planning Liaison meetings including officers from Oxfordshire County Council. There has been effective informal information sharing about Local Plans, housing need evidence, Oxfordshire GTAA and transport evidence bases, also some formal responses as engagements as necessary, although Swindon did not respond to the JLP Regulation 18 (part 2). South and Vale attended a stakeholder engagement workshop and commented on Swindon emerging evidence on housing need in November 2023 and reviewed Swindon's draft Local Plan scoping report in February 2024. Our consultants preparing our Housing Needs Assessment have engaged Swindon in preparing the evidence on local housing needs for the JLP.
- 2.54 At the time of writing this statement South and Vale JLP has no strategic matters in dispute with Swindon. The strategic matters of housing need, employment and transport are relevant to engage upon as Swindon's plan progresses. South and Vale updated Swindon to alert to updated timetable for the JLP in the Local Development Scheme in September 2024, inviting engagement on our Regulation 19 JLP. Once Swindon Borough Council have reviewed their position with respect to the Regulation 19 version of the plan, we have requested further engagement to discuss the production of a Statement of Common Ground.



## **Gloucestershire**

- 2.55 Gloucestershire County Council has a small shared border with Vale of White Horse West boundary near Swindon.
- 2.56 Gloucestershire County Council have engaged with the South and Vale Joint Local Plan and confirmed at Regulation 18 (part 2) that they had no comments to make. South and Vale similarly have no strategic matters with regards to the Gloucestershire Minerals and Waste Plan.
- 2.57 At the time of writing this statement, South and Vale JLP have no disputed strategic matters with Gloucestershire County Council. South and Vale updated Gloucestershire to alert to updated timetable for the JLP in the Local Development Scheme in September 2024, inviting engagement on our Regulation 19 JLP. Once Gloucestershire County Council have reviewed their position with respect to the Regulation 19 version of the plan, we have requested further engagement to discuss the production of a Statement of Common Ground.

## **Cotswolds**

- 2.58 Cotswold's District Council has a small shared border with Vale of White Horse West boundary near Swindon.
- 2.59 Cotswold District Council have engaged with the South and Vale Joint Local Plan but did not comment at Regulation 18 (part 2) stage.
- 2.60 South and Vale engaged on the Cotswold Local Plan update Regulation 18 (part 1) in 2022 and more recently their Regulation 18 (part 2) in February – March 2024. noting that preparation is at an early stage. We responded to encourage spatial options which aligned to Cotswold's and our shared ambitions of 'green to the core values'.
- 2.61 At the time of writing this statement, South and Vale JLP have no disputed strategic matters with Cotswolds District Council. South and Vale updated Cotswolds District Council to alert to the updated timetable for the JLP in the Local Development Scheme in September 2024, inviting engagement on our Regulation 19 JLP. Once Cotswolds District Council have reviewed their position with respect to the Regulation 19 version of the plan, we have requested further engagement to discuss the production of a Statement of Common Ground.

## **West Oxfordshire**

- 2.62 Please see the Oxfordshire-wide commentary on engagements with West Oxfordshire.

2.63 South and Vale have very good engagement with West Oxfordshire, which is structured and led mostly through the OPPO group. There has also been effective informal information sharing and support between officers, and responses as engagements as necessary. West Oxfordshire has taken a lead in commissioning the joint GTAA study, and we have a signed partnership agreement relating to that piece of work.

## **Oxford City**

2.64 Please see the Oxfordshire-wide commentary above on engagements with Oxford City Council.

2.65 Oxford City Council are preparing a new Local Plan having reached a Regulation 19 stage and submission in March 2024. Initial hearings were held in June 2024, with initial Inspectors' conclusions received 11 September 2024, and further hearings possible later in 2024 if the examination progresses. We note that the Local Plan Inspectors in a letter dated 11 September 2024 have concluded that there was a failure by Oxford City Council to comply with the Duty to Co-operate in the preparation of its new Local Plan and inviting Oxford City Council to withdraw that Local Plan. We also note that the City Council has written to the Inspectors in a letter dated 25 September 2024 seeking clarification of aspects of the Inspectors' letter and that (as yet) no decisions have been made by the City Council on the future of their Local Plan.

2.66 Unmet Housing Need – Oxford City Council's Local Plan 2036 (adopted 2020) set out a level of unmet need that Oxford could not accommodate within its boundaries. South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse engaged in a joint Oxfordshire-wide process to determine the best distribution of that unmet need and accepted a significant quantum of unmet need (South Oxfordshire is accommodating 4,950 homes between 2021/21 and 2035/36, and the Vale of White Horse is accommodating 2,200 homes between 2019/20 and 2030/31) which were accommodated in our adopted Local Plans in 2019 and 2020 respectively. The Joint Local Plan period overlaps with the period for delivery that agreed unmet need, so we continue to engage on this matter, including through pre-application and application stage discussions about edge of Oxford sites as they come forward. We have successfully resolved this matter previously, and in the emerging Joint Local Plan we have continued our agreement to meet that evidenced and apportioned level of unmet housing need. We also maintained the supply of sites to ensure that can happen. It is possible that there are implications for the existing unmet need from the latest news on the examination of the emerging Oxford Local Plan, but until that is progressed with a decision from Oxford about how they intend to progress, we cannot respond effectively in the JLP.

- 2.67 Emerging Unmet Housing Need - Within their emerging Local Plan Oxford claimed to have evidenced a need for more unmet housing need, with more to be found by its neighbours. They wrote to South and Vale Councils on 22 December 2023 formally requesting whether South or Vale were able to provide assistance to meet their claimed needs. These are emerging matters for the Oxford City Local Plan process to resolve noting the paragraph above about the status of this examination. We have both engaged in an Oxfordshire Joint Statement of Common Ground on this matter. South and Vale Councils strongly contested the basis for Oxford's increased unmet need for multiple reasons including a current lack of constructive, active, and ongoing engagement under Oxford's own Duty to Co-operate. South and Vale Councils engaged with the examination of Oxford City's Local Plan at their initial hearing in June 2024, clearly explaining our reasons for contesting the claim for more unmet need. This was engaged with in a constructive manner in order to resolve these matters and following initial conclusions from the Inspectors on need we await a decision from the City Council about their next steps.
- 2.68 Spatial Strategy - Our spatial strategy at Policy SP1 has taken account of the relevant cross-boundary matters, specifically the previous request from Oxford City to meet their unmet housing needs. This was accepted by both in the previous Vale of White Horse Local Plan Part 2 Plan, and the South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2035. South and Vale allocated additional sites to ensure that the agreed and apportioned housing needs between Oxfordshire districts are met, but the majority of these sites are yet to be delivered (some delivery has taken place especially north of Abingdon in Vale). This means that we should consider the continued support for the delivery of these sites within this Joint Local Plan period, and make this explicit within our overall spatial strategy.
- 2.69 Housing Requirement - Policy HOU1 and the determined housing requirement has taken account of the existing and agreed unmet need from Oxford City, established in the current adopted Local Plans. The Regulation 18 Part 2 consultation stage included an option considering re-assessment of the contribution that could be made towards the Oxfordshire Growth Deal targets. Given that there are wider implications of this for other districts this is an important Duty to Co-operate strategic matter. The Growth Deal re-assessment option was not selected as a preferred option, and this means that there are no impacts on other authorities.
- 2.70 Landscape - Some of the allocations for development around Oxford must account for views and visually sensitive skylines associated with our neighbours Oxford. Our Policy NH5 refers to the 2015 Assessment of Oxford View Cones<sup>8</sup> and these are protected in relevant allocations.

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<sup>8</sup> [Oxford Views Study | Oxford Views Study | Oxford City Council](#)

### **3 Engagement**

- 3.1 This section of the statement sets out the various engagements that have taken place in the formulation of the Joint Local Plan, as they relate to the strategic matters.
- 3.2 There has been more extensive engagement that has taken place on general planning matters and in relation to other neighbouring authorities Local Plans, but these are not all detailed below, because this statement focusses on our Joint Local Plan, and how we have complied with the Duty to Co-operate.
- 3.3 The table below sets out the relevant Joint Local Plan engagements.

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
		Council	Prescribed body	Non-prescribed body				
Various	All matters	All Oxfordshire Local Authorities and various guest speakers as required			All matters	All Oxfordshire Local Authorities Planning Officers (usually one representative per authority)	Oxfordshire Planning Policy Officers Meetings (OPPO) is a regular meeting (around monthly) of policy officers to discuss planning policy related matters and to provide update on plan progress	As per the notes of meetings on a range of strategic planning matters. The outstanding action from the last OPPO meeting prior to Regulation 19 of the JLP was to comment on the draft Joint Oxfordshire Statement of Common Ground
Various	All matters			Oxfordshire Growth Board (Future Oxfordshire Partnership or FOP)	FOP and any planning policy related matters	Oxfordshire authorities and non-voting members (ICB, Environment Agency, Homes England, two universities, Oxfordshire Skills Board and former Oxfordshire LEP)	The board has a co-ordinating role regarding economic, housing and infrastructure delivery matters. This helps to support the development of policy and secure funding as well as oversee planning policy related work programmes	As per published board minutes
Various	All matters	Oxfordshire County Council			Evidence base and Joint Local Plan, infrastructure matters	Oxfordshire County Council and South and Vale Planning Policy	Various meetings to discuss specific transport schemes, policies, sites and development of transport evidence take place on a regular basis as required, all of which are not individually recorded below	N/A
Various	All matters	All Oxfordshire Local Authorities			Heads of Planning Meetings	All Oxfordshire Local Authorities Heads of Planning	Originally one purpose of the HOP meetings was to provide strategic guidance on Oxfordshire Plan 2020 and to the Core Team. Another is to ensure effective programme management of the Local Development Scheme. Also to work with planning policy managers to align Oxfordshire and Local plans. It also provides professional advice and guidance to the FOP advisory groups	N/A



Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
							and chief executives.	
Various	All matters	All Oxfordshire Local Authorities , former LEP			Future Oxfordshire Partnership sub-groups (Planning, Infrastructure and Growth)	All Oxfordshire Local Authorities and member representatives	A key engagement forum on planning and infrastructure relevant across Oxfordshire and to the FOP	N/A
08/10/2021	Housing need and supply, including affordable housing, and the provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers	Cherwell			GTAA evidence for Oxfordshire plan (now abandoned)	Cherwell, County, West Ox, Consultants RRR	Discuss progress on GTAA for Oxfordshire Plan evidence base (now abandoned)	Consultants to provide update on draft report
		Oxford City						
		Oxfordshire County Council						
		West Oxfordshire						
30/11/2021	Joint Evidence Base	Cherwell			Joint Evidence Base	Cherwell, Oxford City, West Oxfordshire District Council, SODC & VOWH, Oxfordshire County Council	Discussion on potential alignment of evidence base - local plans and Oxfordshire Plan (now abandoned)	Any notes in file
		Oxford City						
		Oxfordshire County Council						
		West Oxfordshire						
24/01/2022	Conserving and Enhancing our Natural and Historic Environments	West Oxfordshire			Natural Capital.	West Oxfordshire District Council, SODC & VOWH	Discussed West's approach to natural capital in the Salt Cross APP and the potential to commission joint evidence on this for our new local plans.	Potential for joint evidence could be raised via OPPO
	Joint Evidence Base							
20/01/2022	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Transport evidence required for LP 2041	South and Vale, OCC Localities Team	Onboarding, early discussions relating to JLP 2041 work, Draft LTCP, LCWIPs, Decide and provide, OMM model update	Need to review safeguarding sites
03/02/2022	Multiple Strategic Planning Matters	Cherwell			Joint HELAA steering group	Cherwell, City, West Ox	Discuss joint methodology and options for alignment	meetings every 4-8 weeks as needed. City chair
		Oxford City						

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
		West Oxfordshire						
09/02/2022	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links		England's Economic Heartland		EEH Connectivity Studies: Sw-Di-Ox Steering Group Meeting 1	South and Vale, OCC, Swindon, EEH, WSP, Steer, Oxford Bus,	Early-stage intro and fact finding for Swindon-Oxford-Didcot Connectivity Study - issues and opportunities	Send additional considerations to study where relevant
10/02/2022	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links			Oxfordshire Strategic Transport Forum	Strategic transport	Go Ahead, Cherwell, OCC, NH, Freight logistics, Stagecoach, West Ox, GWR, Cllrs	Freight and rail freight, mobility hubs, integrated ticketing, BSIP/Zebra	N/A
21/02/2022	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Abingdon LCWIP	OCC/Vale/Cllrs/Cycling champions	LCWIP Steering Group, developing cycling and walking infrastructure in Abingdon	Any notes in file
09/03/2022	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Transport evidence required for Local Plan 2041	South and Vale, OCC Localities Team	Review Evidence Base documents, Validation used in OMM, Decide and Provide, PROW	OCC to provide update on infrastructure delivery, and review safeguarding sites
10/03/2022 06/04/2022 05/05/2022	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links		Natural England		Green Infrastructure.	Various other authorities who had also signed up to test the emerging GI framework.	To test Natural England's emerging GI framework, provide feedback, and to consider how it might inform the approach in the JLP.	Any notes in file
	Conserving and Enhancing our Natural and Historic Environments							

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
28/03/2022	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Monthly JLP/OCC meeting	SODC, VOWHDC, OCC	Update OCC on progress / timings of JLP, Draft Transport Policies etc	Note of meeting produced
29/03/2022	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Safeguarding Sites in Adopted Local Plans	OCC/S&V	Reviewed all safeguarded sites as per adopted Local Plans	Any notes in file
05/04/2022	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Transport evidence required for Local Plan 2041	South and Vale, OCC Localities Team	Evidence Base, NPPG details	Any notes in file
06/04/2022	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Abingdon LCWIP	OCC/Vale/Cllrs/Cycling champions	LCWIP Steering Group, developing cycling and walking infrastructure in Abingdon	Any notes in file
13/04/2022	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links			OMM team Immense	Transport evidence required for LP 2041	S&V and Immense (OMM team)	High level OMM operation, review of proposed use in JLP	Any notes in file
27/04/2022	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links			Active Travel England (ATE)	ATE to become statutory consultation body	ATE, South and Vale	Early-stage discussion of ATE's role, ATE request for examples to use	Next meeting in a month or so, with DM and OCC

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
28/04/2022	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Cherwell			Health Impact Assessments	Oxfordshire County Council and Cherwell	To discuss Cherwell's experience with commissioning a HIA for their JLP, and also discussing Public Health at County's input into this and what help they can provide us in developing our own.	Will follow up with Public Health at the County when developing our own HIA, particularly in the scoping stage.
		Oxfordshire County Council						
28/04/2022	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links			British Cycling (BC)	Cycling Infrastructure	British Cycling, South and Vale	Considering strategies to improve cycling infrastructure	BC to provide follow up examples
04/05/2022	Housing need and supply for Oxfordshire Plan 2050	Cherwell			OGNA (Now abandoned)	SODC, VOWH, OCC, County Council, Cherwell and West	Agree tender for OGNA work	Providing comments on the tender
		Oxford City						
		Oxfordshire County Council						
		West Oxfordshire						
12/05/2022	Supply of Retail and Employment Land	West Berkshire			Unmet employment need	SODC, VoWH, West Berks	Discuss progress of Local Plans and evidence base. W. berks asking if we and others can take their unmet employment needs	Letter to follow

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
08/06/2022	Housing need and supply, including affordable housing, and the provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers	Wokingham			Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) work to support WBC's emerging Local Plan Update (LPU).	N/A	<p>JBA Consulting to carrying out Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) work to support WBC's emerging Local Plan Update (LPU). Includes a review and update to the existing Level 1 SFRA, and a Level 2 SFRA.</p> <p>We are currently collating data from neighbouring local authorities to inform this work.</p> <p>Request to share shapefiles on site allocations (within adopted plan) within your authority area, to inform any cross-boundary impacts and cumulative development for the Wokingham SFRA.</p>	Shapefiles sent
14/06/2022	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Monthly JLP/OCC meeting	SODC, VOWHDC, OCC	Update OCC on progress / timings of JLP, Draft Transport Policies etc	Note of meeting produced
17/06/2022	Conserving and Enhancing our Natural and Historic Environments	Cherwell			Green Infrastructure.	N/A	Cherwell consultation on emerging GBI strategy. S&V response - We believe that it may be helpful for the Council's to have a conversation about cross-boundary GBI around the Cherwell/South Oxfordshire border, in particular the proposal for a 'regional nature park' in this area.	Arrange meeting to discuss.
11/08/2022	Addressing Climate Change	Oxford City			Changes to Building Regulations affecting policy and also future climate change policy more generally.	Oxford City and S&V	To discuss their approach to the change in building regulations in relation to their current policy requirements. Due to the wording of their policy they were able to simply assess their Policy RE1 off of the new regulations but our policy did not have the same wording to allow us to do that. We also discussed future climate change policy more generally and thought we could share ideas in future.	Potential future meeting regarding what we are doing regarding climate change policy



Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
17/08/2022 07/09/2022	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Cherwell District Council			IDP and workshop	Email and workshop by Cherwell/LUC	IDP associated with Cherwell Local Plan to 2040 and invited to workshop	Will review IDP alongside Cherwell consultation. South and Vale officer attended workshop
23/08/2022	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Monthly JLP/OCC meeting	SODC, VOWHDC, OCC	Update OCC on progress / timings of JLP, Draft Transport Policies etc	Note of meeting produced
26/08/2022	Conserving and Enhancing our Natural and Historic Environments		Natural England		Nutrient neutrality	Natural England, South & Vale	How to approach nutrient neutrality issues associated with the River Lambourn SAC in the JLP and HRA.	Engage with NE through the HRA process.
21/09/2022	All matters	West Oxfordshire District Council			West Oxfordshire Regulation 18 'Your Voice Counts' consultation	Email from South and Vale	Response to the Regulation 18 consultation	Responded 21/09/22, on file
22/09/2022	Multiple Strategic Planning Matters	West Oxfordshire			Regulation 18 consultation undertaken by West Oxfordshire	Email only	Email sent on 21/9/22 (saved in DTC file) to confirm that no formal response will be sent by South and Vale and the reasons why we consider that a response isn't necessary	No further action
22/09/2022	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Cherwell			Waste water treatment	Email only (via Cherwell WCS consultants - JBA)	Provided information on planned development within WwTW catchments that are shared with Cherwell so that Cherwell's WCS can take account of development in S&V.	No further action
22/09/2022	Supply of Retail and Employment Land	West Berkshire			Unmet employment need	Email between S&V and W.Berks		Email on file

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
29/09/2022	Conserving and Enhancing our Natural and Historic Environments		Environment Agency		OxCam Integrated Water Management Framework	EA, S&V, various other LPAs.	EA workshop to gain views on the appropriate scope and outputs from the OxCam Integrated Water Management Framework.	Future workshops to refine scope.
30/09/2022	Conserving and Enhancing our Natural and Historic Environments	Oxfordshire County Council			Green Infrastructure.	OCC, S&V.	To find out if OCC is progressing any GI work at a countywide scale. Also to discuss potential GI approaches and evidence for the JLP.	Include OCC in GI steering group if this is progressed. Share GI brief with OCC.
15/11/2022	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Monthly JLP/OCC meeting	SODC, VOWHDC, OCC	Update OCC on progress / timings of JLP, Draft Transport Policies etc	Note of meeting produced
18/11/2022	All matters	Oxford City Council			Oxford City Council Regulation 18 Preferred Options consultation	South and Vale response to the consultation	Formal responses sent by South and Vale	Responses sent
22/11/2022	Conserving and Enhancing our Natural and Historic Environments	West Oxfordshire Oxford City Council			Biodiversity Net Gain	West Oxfordshire Oxford City Council TVERC Trust for Oxfordshire	To discuss the potential to develop shared evidence to support requiring >10% BNG across Oxfordshire.	Any notes in file
25/11/2022	All matters	West Berkshire			West Berkshire Local Plan	Email from west Berkshire	Email from west Berkshire about forthcoming consultation and update on unmet employment needs	To propose a follow up meeting
16/12/2022	All matters	Buckinghamshire Council			Sustainability Appraisal	Email from Buckinghamshire Council	South and Vale Invite to make comments on the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Scoping Report and HRA Scoping Report	Response sent 27 January 2023, Letter on file

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
06/01/2023	All matters	Cherwell District Council			Statement of Common Ground	Email from Cherwell District Council	Cherwell sent a first draft Statement of Common Ground. South and Vale began and sent amendments, but SOCG was abandoned by Cherwell at that stage as their consultation was delayed	No further action
10/01/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Monthly JLP/OCC meeting	SODC, VOWHDC, OCC	Update OCC on progress / timings of JLP, Draft Transport Policies etc	Note of meeting produced
17/01/2023	Housing need and supply, including affordable housing, and the provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers	Oxford City Council			Oxford Regulation 18 Local Plan bespoke consultation on housing need	Response from South and Vale Council's	To send formal responses to the consultation from South and Vale	Responses sent
18/01/2023	Conserving and Enhancing our Natural and Historic Environments	Buckinghamshire Council			SFRA / WCS and site allocations	Email with Buckinghamshire Council officers and their consultants JBA	JBA Consulting has been commissioned by Bucks to prepare a Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Scoping Water Cycle Study (WCS). We provided our site allocations for South Oxfordshire in June 2022, as part of the Wokingham SFRA update and the email requests a copy of the latest committed sites, and to ask permission to use the existing allocated site data within the Buckinghamshire SFRA/WCS.	South and Vale officers responded with shapefiles and permission by 3 Feb 2023.
02/02/2023	All matters	West Berkshire District Council			Planning Policy and Local Plan progress, unmet need	South and Vale Officers, West Berkshire Officers	Discussion about West Berkshire unmet needs for office and industrial employment land, south and vale current supply and JLP position. 20 January 2023 email regarding regulation 19 consultation.	Formal responses required before West Berkshire submits their plan for examination – sent 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2023, on file
27/03/2023	Housing need and supply, including affordable housing, and the provision of	Oxford City			Unmet housing need	Oxford City and S&V	Detailed note made. Key issues related to S&V concerns about the HENA methodology, its inclusion of all of Oxfordshire, and the capacity for housing within the City.	Actions in note

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
	sites for Gypsies and Travellers							
19/04/2023	Housing need and supply, including affordable housing, and the provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers	All			Specialist Housing Need	All neighbours except Wiltshire and Cotswolds	A workshop to discuss methodology for the Specialist Housing Needs Assessment	Actions in note
19/04/2023	Conserving and Enhancing our Natural and Historic Environments	Oxfordshire County Council		Chilterns AONB Conservation Board	Landscape (Tranquillity)	S&V, OCC, members from both AONBs and CPRE	To discuss tranquillity indicators and ascertain data sources to feed into tranquillity evidence	Production of landscape evidence and update landscape policies
26/04/2023	Housing need and supply, including affordable housing, and the provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers	Oxfordshire County Council			Site allocations	County Council and S&V	Discuss amendments to site allocations made in current local plans to carry over into the JLP	Continued amendments to the site allocations
09/05/2023	Housing need and supply, including affordable housing, and the provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers	Oxfordshire County Council			Site allocations	County Council and S&V	Discuss amendments to site allocations made in current local plans to carry over into the JLP	Continued amendments to the site allocations
09/05/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Site allocations	SODC, VOWHDC, OCC	Continue discussions about site allocations following JLP/OCC meeting (also on 12/05/12)	Discussions to feed into policy drafting
12/05/2023	Conserving and Enhancing our Natural and Historic Environments	Buckinghamshire Council			SFRA	Email from Buckinghamshire Council	The Bucks draft Level 1 SFRA has been prepared, and South and Vale were invited to comment on the draft report	No requirement to comment

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
22/05/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links			Thames Water	SESRO	Mott Macdonald, E Simons Consulting, Thames Water, Constain, Network Rail, VOWHDC, OCC	To discuss rail sidings infrastructure for SESRO	SESRO team to take away feedback, Network Rail to provide further information for SESRO team
23/05/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Wantage and Grove Railway Station	OCC, VOWHDC	To discuss safeguarding land for the station. Review if to add or remove land currently safeguarded for consideration of what should be included in the JLP	OCC indicated that the eastern and western locations are not suitable for the station and that the central location is the more appropriate for safeguarding. (to review this suggestion with internal colleagues and other OCC officers)
24/05/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Monthly JLP/OCC meeting	SODC, VOWHDC, OCC	Culham (STRAT9), Northfield, Wheatley, updates from OCC, Update OCC on progress / timings of JLP, Draft Transport Policies, live edit - continuation	To consider site allocations considerations, to consider policies suggestions
25/05/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Buckinghamshire Council			Local Plan and LTP5 for Buckinghams hire	Email from Buckinghamshire Council	Local Plan for Buckinghamshire and Local Transport Plan 5 Survey	02/06/2023 response sent from South and Vale Council's – no comments to make but reminded them of forthcoming JLP consultation for us
12/06/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Transport Safeguarding	SODC/VOWHDC, OCC	To discuss safeguarding mapping particulars for the emerging JLP	OCC to action mapping requests and seek further information internally  To check through mapping

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
13/06/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			OCC Liaison	OCC, SODC/VOWH	Updates between the authorities followed by strategic site meetings for South and separately Vale	N/A
16/06/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			OMM/Alternatives for modelling	SODC/VOWHDC, OCC	To discuss modelling for the JLP. Considering OMM particulars	to consider modelling runs and OMM commission further
19/06/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Swindon BC			Liaison with Swindon and OCC	OCC, SBC, VOWHDC	To update all present on progress in planning matters, including Local Plan updates and LTP updates.	VOWHDC to produce minutes and to arrange next meeting
21/06/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Modelling	SODC/VOWHDC, OCC	For OCC to provide an update on way forward for modelling, with OMM now identified as not being ready to support JLP	OCC to review existing evidence base work and qualitative assessment to support JLP
26/06/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxford City			Local Plan and modelling	Oxford City, SODC/VOWHDC	To discuss Local Plan development and associated modelling requirements	N/A
26/06/2023	Housing need and supply, including affordable housing, and the provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers	Oxford City			Local Plan and Oxford Local Plan	Oxford City, SODC/VOWHDC	To discuss Oxford City HELAA outputs, Local Plan development, evidence base and direction of travel	Oxford to prepare meeting note
27/06/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities,	Oxfordshire County Council			Modelling / JLP	SODC/VOWHDC, OCC	To discuss modelling undertaken by other authorities, what the qualitative assessment could look like and considerations for Existing transport	To progress procurement of Existing transport conditions report

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
	flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links						conditions report	
29/06/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	West Oxfordshire District Council			Local Plan and modelling	West oxon, SODC/VOWHDC	To discuss Local Plan development and associated modelling requirements	N/A
17/7/2023	Joint Evidence Base	All Oxfordshire District/City Council's			Joint Housing and Economic Land Availability assessment methodology engagement	Email to all Oxfordshire district and city Council's	To engage on the assumptions made in the HELAA for South and Vale	Review responses received and record engagement in the HELAA paper and Duty to Co-operate Paper with responses to comments made
18/07/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			OCC Liaison	OCC, SODC/VOWH	Updates between the authorities followed by strategic site meetings for South and separately Vale	N/A
03/08/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Didcot LCWIP	OCC, SODC/VOWH, Systra	To review content of emerging Didcot LCWIP for OCC to adopt (although led by internal Didcot Garden Town team)	N/A
11/08/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Didcot NPR3	SODC/VOWHDC, OCC	A stakeholder workshop to review Didcot NPR3 progress to date and request for comments	N/A
22/08/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and	Oxfordshire County Council			Safeguarding Schemes	SODC/VOWHDC, OCC	To discuss the particulars of a safeguarded scheme update	To identify considerations with specialists team - Flooding, biodiversity etc

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
	strategic sustainable transport links							
23/08/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			JLP Transport work	SODC/VOWHDC, OCC	In house evidence base sections and chapters, general update on projects	N/A
24/08/2023	Conserving and Enhancing our Natural and Historic Environments	West Oxfordshire			Biodiversity Net Gain	West Oxfordshire	discussing evidence requirements for >10% BNG and an update on what has been procured and what else might be needed.	Continue to engage
05/09/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			OCC Liaison	OCC, SODC/VOWH	Updates between the authorities followed by strategic site meetings for South and separately Vale	N/A
06/09/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			JLP Transport work	SODC/VOWHDC, OCC	HIF update, site allocations discussion, draft in house report info	To progress in-house work
08/09/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			School travel information	SODC/VOWHDC, OCC	To discuss access to school travel plan data for use in evidence base work	OCC to provide access for travel plan platform
11/09/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			School bus travel	SODC/VOWHDC, OCC	Gather information about school bus services and free travel services	N/A



Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
12/09/2023	Conserving and Enhancing our Natural and Historic Environments	West Oxfordshire Oxford City Council OCC (Minerals and Waste) Cherwell			Habitat Regulations Assessment	West Oxfordshire Oxford City Council OCC (Minerals and Waste) Cherwell	Discussion about how/when to commission air quality evidence to assess impact of cumulative planned development, primarily on Oxford Meadows SAC.	Meeting note produced.  Keep in touch with other authorities about their Local Plan timetables (to determine whether there's scope for any joint commission on traffic modelling/air quality impacts.
26/09/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			EV chargers Workshop	SODC/VOWHDC, OCC	To explore types and locations of EV chargers (relating to OCC receiving funding for installation)	N/A
28/09/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links re	Wiltshire			Canal Partnership Towpath Challenge	VOWHDC, Wiltshire, OCC, SBC	To discuss the benefits of seeking to promote a walking and cycling route along the historic canal route in order to support the restoration of the canal	N/A
04/10/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Wiltshire			Wilts and Berks Canal policy	Wiltshire, S&V	To discuss the draft canal policy	To review policy wording further
06/10/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Reading BC			Liaison with Reading	RBC, S&V	Reading identifying their upcoming LTP, discussion about Local Plans in general and update on JLP progress	To look out for LTP consultation  South and Vale agreed to draft SOCG in prep for next stages (likely to align with JL consultation) and will share with Reading for

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
								comments
09/10/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			JLP/OCC meeting	S&V, OCC	HIF1, Site allocations, transport modelling, lodge hill slips, LTCP, safeguarding new maps	OCC to progress commission of Atkins
10/10/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			OCC Liaison	OCC, SODC/VOWH	Updates between the authorities followed by strategic site meetings for South and separately Vale	N/A
17/10/2023	All matters	West Oxfordshire District Council			West Oxfordshire Regulation 18 consultation	Responses to Regulation 18 Focused Consultation from South and Vale	Responses to consultation	Sent 17 October 2023
23/10/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Freight Steering Group	OCC, S&V, DPD, Pedal and Post, Amazon, Buckinghamshire, West North Hants, Warwickshire, Gloucestershire, SBC, Reading, Wokingham, Oxford City, Cherwell, West oxon	OCC creating a dialogue for discussions on freight. Example of new freight consolidation site in South near M40.	To follow up internally with freight consolidation concern
30/10/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links e	Wokingham			Wokingham DTC	S&V, Wokingham	Discuss local plans and infrastructure provision, including third Thames Crossing	Any notes in file
30/10/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable	Oxfordshire County Council			Rail Strategy	OCC, S&V	Discuss rail planning for the S&V area, Didcot Parkway, Wantage & Grove	Next meeting to be added (OCC)

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
	transport links e							
02/11/2023	Healthy Places	Oxfordshire County Council			Healthy Place shaping	OCC, S&V, Cherwell, West, Ox city	Discuss healthy place shaping in our Local Plans	N/A
03/11/2023	All matters	Cherwell District Council			Response to Cherwell Local Plan Regulation 18 consultation	South and Vale response to the Cherwell Local Plan Regulation 18 consultation	To provide a formal response to consultation	Response from South and response from Vale on file
06/11/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Greater Cambridge			Local Plans and D&P	Greater Cambridge	To understand what Greater Cambridge are doing for D&P	N/A
07/11/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			OCC Liaison	OCC, SODC/VOWH	Updates between the authorities followed by strategic site meetings for South and separately Vale	N/A
10/11/2023	Housing need and supply, including affordable housing, and the provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers	West Berkshire Local Plan			Gypsy and Traveller call for sites for West Berkshire	Email from West Berkshire	Launch of call for sites for the DPD	No action required
14/11/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			JLP/OCC meeting	OCC, S&V	JE presenting on dark skies and Carbon considerations, nutshell mapping considerations for transport, review of draft evidence base work (inhouse)	To complete and share evidence base work to OCC
14/11/2023	Housing need and supply, including affordable housing, and the provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers	Swindon Borough Council			Swindon Housing Needs	S&V, Swindon BC	Swindon to share their approach to their HNA	OM&LD to update EB on findings

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
15/11/2023	All matters	Wiltshire Council			Non-response to Wiltshire Regulation 19 consultation	Email from Vale	Response to Wiltshire council confirming no duty to Co-operate matters with vale with no comments provided on the consultation	Response sent 15/11/23 and on file
21/11/2023	All matters	Wokingham Borough Council			Wokingham Local plan and duty to Co-operate	Email from South and Vale in response to the requests from Wokingham	Response sent from South and Vale about the request related to gypsies and travellers needs, employment and transport matters	Response sent 21/11/2023 and on file. Follow-up letter received from Wokingham on 29/11/2023 confirming previous thoughts on Gypsy and traveller needs which confirms that the position remains unchanged, and no further action needed
30/11/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			OSM modelling	OCC, Atkins, S&V	Discussion of OSM commission	OCC to progress brief
07/12/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			OSM modelling	OCC, Atkins, S&V	Discussion of OSM commission	Atkins to progress response to brief
11/12/2023	All matters	Swindon BC			Liaison with Swindon and OCC	OCC, SBC, VOWHDC	To update all present on progress in planning matters, inc. Local Plan updates and LTP updates.	As per any meeting notes
12/12/2023	Housing need and supply, including affordable housing, and the provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers	Cherwell District Council			Housing Need Evidence	Cherwell District Council officer, South and Vale officer	Brief discussion about previous south and vale matters raised regarding the Oxford and Cherwell Housing Needs Assessment and sharing of previous critiques with new officers at Cherwell	Possibly meeting in early 2024 with Oxford, Cherwell and South and Vale officers, unless these matters can be covered in the

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
								planned Oxfordshire Statement of Common Ground
12/12/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			OCC Liaison	OCC, SODC/VOWH	Updates between the authorities followed by strategic site meetings for South and separately Vale	N/A
12/12/2023	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Joint Local Plan transport evidence base	OCC, SODC/VOWH	To review comments / progress doc. To consider D&P further.	To review comments / progress doc. LD to consider D&P further.
19/12/2023	All matters	Oxford City Council			Oxford City Local Plan and Evidence Base and South and Vale Joint Local Plan	Oxford City Council officers, South and Vale officers	To review matters relating to the representations about to be submitted by South and Vale to Oxford's Regulation 19 Local Plan, to review questions about Oxford's evidence base. To discuss the recent planning policy changes to the climate change related policies in the JLP and briefly update on the progress of the JLP.	To meet again regarding the statement of common ground
20/12/2023	Housing need and supply, including affordable housing, and the provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers	Swindon Borough Council			Housing need of Swindon	Housing need of Swindon South and Vale response to report and workshop	Response sent by South and Vale to Swindon on their housing need paper and after attending workshop hosted by Swindon and their consultants	No further action at this time
21/12/2023	All matters	Oxford City Council			South and Vale responses to the Regulation 19 Oxford Local Plan consultation	Formal representations to Oxford City Council	To provide formal responses to the consultation	No further action related to Regulation 19 responses, awaiting next steps for Oxford
22/12/2023	Housing need and supply, including affordable housing, and the provision of sites for Gypsies and	Oxford City Council			Letter from Oxford formally requesting assistance to	Email from Oxford City Council to the Chief Executive of South and Vale Council's	To request assistance to meet further claimed unmet housing need	To respond to a formal letter

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
	Travellers				meet a claimed unmet housing need			
09/01/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			JLP Transport work	OCC, S&V	Updates shared, preparation for launch, deallocation of sites discussed, Oxford City responses under duty to cooperate discussed	N/A
23/01/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Strategic sites and Policy liaison	OCC, S&V	Joint Local Plan; Cowley Branch Line; Transport Evidence Base; Transport Strategy/Policy (zero emission zone/rail strategy); HLS update; Transport Schemes update; Garden Communities; SESRO; Neighbourhood Plan update; Government; Future Oxfordshire Partnership/OXIS/OX-Cam/EEH etc; Cross Boundary matters (Oxford city local plan, West Ox local plan, Cherwell local plan)	S&V to consider Cowley branch line references
07/02/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			JLP Transport work	OCC, S&V	Updates and IDP focus, Modelling, Cowley Branch Line	N/A
29/02/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Strategic sites and Policy liaison	OCC, S&V	Joint Local Plan; Cowley Branch Line; Transport Evidence Base; Transport Strategy/Policy (zero emission zone/rail strategy); HLS update; Transport Schemes update; Garden Communities; SESRO; Neighbourhood Plan update; Government; Future Oxfordshire Partnership/OXIS/OX-Cam/EEH etc; Cross Boundary matters (Oxford city local plan, West Ox local plan, Cherwell local plan)	N/A
07/03/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable	Oxfordshire County Council			JLP Transport work	OCC, S&V	Review comments on Evidence Base doc, SESRO considerations Scoping EIA	LD to work through comments on report

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
	transport links							
07/03/2024	Healthy Places	Oxfordshire County Council			Healthy Place shaping	OCC, S&V, Cherwell, West, Ox city	Discuss healthy place shaping in our Local Plans	N/A
11/03/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			SATN Steering Group	OCC, Cherwell, Ox City, West, S&V	Discuss progress on OCC's project on SATN	N/A
12/03/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxford City Council			Oxford Greenways	Ox City, SODC/VOWHDC, OCC	Review project scope and content	N/A
25/03/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Strategic sites and Policy liaison	OCC, S&V	Joint Local Plan; Playing pitch strategy; Cowley Branch Line; Transport Evidence Base; Transport Strategy/Policy (Workplace parking levy/rail strategy/staffing); HLS update; Transport Schemes update; Garden Communities; Water Policy; Neighbourhood Plan update; Government; Future Oxfordshire Partnership/OXIS/OX-Cam/EEH etc/OXIS; Cross Boundary matters (Oxford city local plan)	N/A
04/04/2024	Healthy Places	Oxfordshire County Council			Healthy Place shaping	OCC, S&V, Cherwell, West, Ox city	Discuss healthy place shaping in our Local Plans	N/A
25/04/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Strategic sites and Policy liaison	OCC, S&V	Joint Local Plan; Transport Evidence Base; Transport Strategy/Policy; HLS update; Transport Schemes update; Garden Communities; Water Policy; Neighbourhood Plan update; Government; Future Oxfordshire Partnership/OXIS/OX-Cam/EEH etc/OXIS; Cross Boundary matters	N/A
23/04/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities,	Oxfordshire County Council			Freight Steering Group	OCC, S&V	Discuss freight across Oxfordshire	N/A

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
	flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links							
25/04/2024	All matters	Wokingham Borough Council			Duty to Cooperate	Wokingham, S&V	Update from both authorities on Local Plan progress	N/A
30/04/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			IDP Workshop	OCC, S&V	IDP workshop	TR to update IDP work from feedback
01/05/2024	Conserving and Enhancing our Natural and Historic Environments		Natural England		HRA	NE, UEEC, S&V	Discuss HRA for JLP	HRA joint review across Oxfordshire authorities
07/05/2024	Conserving and Enhancing our Natural and Historic Environments	Multiple LPAs			HRA at the OPPO meeting	City, Cherwell, West, OCC, S&V	Discuss Natural England request to have a joined-up approach to HRA	HRA to be developed jointly
08/05/2024	Multiple Strategic Planning Matters		Environment Agency		WCS and SFRA	Environment Agency, S&V, JBA, Wallingford HydroSolutions	Discussed WCS and SFRA approach	EA to review SFRA method statement
16/05/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Strategic sites and Policy liaison	OCC, S&V	Joint Local Plan; Cowley Branch Line; Transport Evidence Base; Transport Strategy/Policy (sustainable active travel network approval/rail strategy/OxRail 2024/Benson marina hub pilot/bus service improvement plan/Countywide multi-operator ticket/New OCC-operated bus services for rural communities); HLS update; Transport Schemes update; Garden Communities; Water Policy; Neighbourhood Plan update; Government; Future Oxfordshire Partnership/OXIS/OX-Cam/EEH etc/OXIS; Cross Boundary matters (SCGV/West Oxfordshire plan/Cherwell Plan/Oxford city local plan)	N/A
22/05/2024	Conserving and Enhancing our Natural and Historic Environments	Multiple LPAs			HRA at the OPPO meeting	Ox city, Cherwell, West, OCC, S&V	Discuss joint working for HRA	HRA doc to be developed jointly



Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
03/06/2024	Multiple Strategic Planning Matters		Environment Agency		SFRA method	EA, S&V (via email)	Advice given on SFRA method	N/A
06/06/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			JLP Transport work	OCC, S&V	Updates, Oxford city Local Plan, modelling update, IDP, SESRO	N/A
06/06/2024	Conserving and Enhancing our Natural and Historic Environments	Multiple LPAs			HRA at the OPPO meeting	Ox City, Cherwell, S&V	Discuss needs for HRA combined work	N/A
06/06/2024	Healthy Places	Oxfordshire County Council			Healthy Place shaping	OCC, S&V, Cherwell, West, Ox city	Discuss healthy place shaping in our Local Plans	N/A
07/06/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links		CCG/ICS (NHS)		IDP/Health	S&V, BOB ICB	Discuss IDP and Health in JLP	N/A
12/06/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links		National Highways		Evidence Base discussion	OCC, National Highways, S&V	Discuss emerging JLP	N/A
18/06/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Strategic sites and Policy liaison	OCC, S&V	Joint Local Plan; Cowley Branch Line; Transport Evidence Base; Transport Strategy/Policy (BSIP approval/area travel updates); HLS update; Transport Schemes update; Garden Communities; Water Policy; Neighbourhood Plan update; Government; Future Oxfordshire Partnership/OXIS/OX-Cam/EEH etc/OXIS; Cross Boundary matters (Oxford city local plan hearings)	N/A
26/06/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities,	Oxfordshire County Council			Cowley Branch line at Oxford	OCC, Ox City, S&V	Discuss CBL	N/A

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
	flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links							
27/06/2024	Housing need and supply, including affordable housing, and the provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers	Wiltshire			Gypsy and traveller need	Wiltshire, Dorset, South Gloucestershire, S&V, Gloucestershire, Hampshire, West Oxfordshire, West Berkshire	Wiltshire Gypsies and Travellers Development Plan Document Workshop. Brief update on plan-making activity. Discussion on cross-boundary matters	Need for SoCGs to be explored with neighbouring authorities during consultation period
02/07/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Multiple		Sustrans	Oxford Greenways	Ox city, OCC, S&V, Sustrans, Cherwell, West	Project team updating on progress	N/A
16/07/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Strategic sites and Policy liaison	OCC, S&V	Joint Local Plan; Cowley Branch Line; Transport Evidence Base; Transport Strategy (Area Travel Plans/Recruitment/Science Vale Area Travel Plan/Engagement on SVATP/Abingdon LCWIP/OMM update); HLS update; Transport Schemes update; Benson relief road; Garden Communities; Water Policy; Neighbourhood Plan update; Government; Future Oxfordshire Partnership/OXIS/OX-Cam/EEH etc/OXIS; Cross Boundary matters (Puy Du Fou Theme Park proposal Cherwell Home/Oxford Flood alleviation scheme /CDC consulting on draft CIL charging schedule./WODC shortly consulting on their draft CIL charging schedule/West Oxfordshire Local Plan 2041 new proposed LDS)	Abingdon LCWIP to follow up separately
22/07/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			JLP Transport work	OCC, S&V	Draft policies, IDP costings, Cowley Branch Line, supporting text review	N/A
23/07/2024	The provision of infrastructure,	Multiple		Multiple Bus	Bus Enhanced Partnership	OCC, Ox Bus, Reading Bus, Ox city, Stagecoach,	Review meeting minutes and discuss Enhanced Partnership review	N/A

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
	including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links			Operators	meeting	Cherwell, S&V		
08/08/2024	Multiple Strategic Planning Matters		Environment Agency		SFRA	S&V, Environment Agency (via email)	EA review of Level 1 SFRA and recommendations for Level 2.	N/A
12/08/2024	Gypsy and Traveller need	Multiple LPAs			GTAA at the OPPO meeting; Statements of Common Ground	Ox City, Cherwell, S&V, OCC	Discussions on draft GTAA findings and steps to finalise report. Forthcoming work on Statements of Common Ground for local plans.	N/A
13/08/2024	Conserving and Enhancing our Natural and Historic Environments	All			Lowland fen evidence	All neighbouring authorities (via email)	Informed them that we are developing new lowland fen evidence and that it may identify potential for cross-boundary impacts.	Further engagement with relevant authorities if potential cross-boundary impacts are identified. Will send update to neighbours as soon as practicable after Regulation 19 publication of the evidence if no immediate concerns raised
28/08/2024	Conserving and Enhancing our Natural and Historic Environments	Oxfordshire County Council			HRA	OCC, S&V	Discuss HRA joint document with OCC	OCC to amend document discussed. HRA has been progressing with collaboration to the best that Oxfordshire authorities can achieve given their different stages of plan-making, and further engagement with Natural England is needed in the Regulation 19 period prior to

Date	Strategic Planning Matter	Engagement With:			Topic	All Bodies/ Parties Present	Purpose of meeting / key decisions made	Actions/next steps (related to Strategic Issue(s))
								submission of the JLP.
09/09/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council			Strategic sites and Policy liaison	OCC, S&V	Joint Local Plan; Cowley Branch Line; Transport Evidence Base; Transport Strategy/Policy (OxRail2040 Rail Strategy / Review of Parking Standards); HLS update; Transport Schemes update; Garden Communities; Water Policy; Neighbourhood Plan update; Government (NPPF Consultation); Future Oxfordshire Partnership/OXIS/OX-Cam/EEH etc; Cross Boundary Matters;	To follow up on resourcing for SOCG
13/09/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links	Oxfordshire County Council	National Highways		Sharing of transport modelling to National Highways by email	OCC, S&V, National Highways	Sharing of transport modelling to National Highways by email	N/A
17/09/2024	The provision of infrastructure, including health, education, utilities, flood risk and strategic sustainable transport links		Environment Agency		Water Cycle Study Scoping Report	Environment Agency, S&V (by email)	Environment Agency review of WCS Scoping Report and recommendations for WCS Detailed Report.	Meet with EA to discuss WCS detailed report method in more detail
12/08/2024	Gypsy and Traveller needs	Multiple LPAs			GTAA	Ox City, Cherwell, S&V	GTAA finalisation discussions with consultant	N/A

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