

Olly Glover, M.P. Member of Parliament for Didcot and Wantage House of Commons London, SW1A 0AA Councillor Bethia Thomas Leader of the Council

Bethia.Thomas@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Tel: 01235 422422 Abbey House Abbey Close Abingdon OX14 3JE

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Dear Mr Glover,

I am writing on behalf of Vale of White Horse District Council in relation to HM Government's Planning and Infrastructure Bill. We wish to make clear our opposition to the damaging changes contained within this measure – specifically part 3 – that will threaten existing environment protections and undermine efforts to aid nature recovery.

While the Vale recognises the pressing need to deliver homes and clean energy infrastructure to address the affordability and climate crises facing the country, the council does not believe that this should be achieved at the expense of our natural world. Moreover, we would strongly argue that the UK's current environmental protections are not a blocker to housing delivery and growth but instead are a necessary safeguard to ensure that we do not cause further irreparable damage to our existing ecosystems.

Vale of White Horse District Council is, therefore, asking that you:

- oppose the measures contained within part 3 of the Planning and Infrastructure Bill.
- will vote against the Planning and Infrastructure Bill at third reading if the measures contained within part 3 have not been removed.

I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Bethia Thomas Leader of the Council

