

Watlington Neighbourhood Development Plan Oral hearing Monday 5 March 2018 10.30am Town Hall, Market Place, High Street, Watlington OX49 5PY

Thank you to Mr Ashcroft for his invitation to attend the morning session - the Proposed bypass of Watlington

Please accept my apologies as I am unable to attend. I would like to contribute the following for Mr Ashcroft's consideration:

1. What evidence underpins the proposal in the Plan for a Watlington bypass?

WNDP 2.6 Traffic Traffic surveys commissioned by the WNDP in 2015 showed that about 9400 vehicles pass through Watlington on a daily average. At peak times 80% were on journeys which both began and ended outside the town.

Traffic counts were conducted by Transport Planning Practice (TPP) in September 2014. The report was published in November 2014. Concerning through traffic, the cordon was around the settlement of Watlington, so some local traffic, such as around the parish or between neighbouring villages, was probably counted as non-local, and through traffic was estimated at peak times only.

WNDP 6.2 Development Choices Analysis of projections of increased 'out-of-town' traffic travelling through Watlington as a result of significant new housing developments approved in Chinnor, Benson and Wallingford, and the possibility of major housing developments on the Chalgrove Airfield site - in lieu of alternative infrastructure proposals - appear certain to increase traffic entering and transiting Watlington along the B480 and B4009 roads during the period of the WNDP.

WNDP Traffic Drop In 3rd February 2018 "Figures produced by AECOM for the HCA (now Homes England) show that by 2033 two way traffic between Watlington and the M40 is likely to increase by 39% in the morning peak period and by 43% in the evening peak. These estimates are based on a 15% growth in the area, excluding development at Chalgrove airfield but adding known planning approvals up to May 2016. (HCA Chalgrove Airfield Briefing Pack January 2017)"

If AECOM data (produced for Homes England) is considered by the examiner, it should be double checked and is possibly out of date. The Chalgrove Airfield Briefing Pack estimate of sub-region growth includes Benson 1300 houses, Stadhampton 200 houses, Watlington 400 houses, Chinnor 800 houses, Berinsfield 1500-2000 houses.

4. • How will the proposed route be delivered in general terms? Is its delivery dependent on financial contributions from the emerging residential development at Chalgrove (as set out in the submitted South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2033) and/or from other sources of funding? In broad terms is the development of a bypass commercially viable?

Emerging South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2033 Policy Trans3: Safeguarding of Land for Strategic Transport Schemes. This includes safeguarded land for Watlington bypass. On Policy Strat9: Land at Chalgrove Airfield, SODC Leader and officers said " Details of the supporting infrastructure including traffic management measures were not included in the Local Plan. They would be considered as part of any planning application and proposed S106 agreement" (Scrutiny Committee 13th September 2017).

Debbie Davies
26th February 2018