

South Oxfordshire District Council Housing Supply Statement:

The council has recently received two planning appeal decisions on major housing proposals; land at Winterbrook, Wallingford (P15/S0191/FUL) and land north of Lower Icknield Way, Chinnor (P15/S0154/O). These appeals were allowed and planning permission granted for the proposed housing development.

Both Inspectors assessing these appeals concluded that we should be applying a higher housing target as set out in the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA), which means delivering more housing than is currently planned for in our adopted Core Strategy. However, they recognised the strength of our housing distribution strategy, which focuses development to the more sustainable towns and larger villages.

The outcome of these two appeal decisions means that our Core Strategy housing policies are given significantly less weight in our decision making. Sustainable development should now be permitted unless there is planning harm that outweighs the benefit of providing new housing.

We will address our current housing supply position by working with neighbourhood planning groups and town and parish councils and rapidly progress the review of our Local Plan 2031.

We will strongly resist applications which do not respect our distribution strategy across the district, accord with well advanced or 'made' Neighbourhood Plans, or don't represent sustainable development.

28 April 2016