

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Future Joint Local Plan: Call for Land and Buildings Available for Change- August 2021

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils are now preparing a Joint Local Plan to 2041, which when adopted will supersede:

- [South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2035 \(adopted December 2020\)](#)
- [Vale of White Horse LPP1 \(adopted December 2016\) and LPP2 \(October 2019\)](#)

The Joint Local Development Scheme (LDS) sets out the timetable for producing new planning policy documents, including key production and public consultation stages. This is the first joint LDS that covers South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils, and includes details of the Joint Local Plan.

The Local Development Scheme, March 2021 can be found [here](#)

### **Call for Land and Buildings Available for Change**

The 'Call for Land and Buildings Available for Change' is an invitation to landowners, agents, developers, community groups and others who are interested in having land considered for a range of different uses to submit information to us on the land and building they would like to be assessed.

This process is usually referred to as a Call for Sites. The change in name reflects that as well as land for housing and jobs, there is also an opportunity to submit sites for community and environmental uses, such as public open spaces or renewable energy, through this process. We are particularly keen to hear about previously developed land (also known as brownfield sites) that is available, or existing larger buildings that could be converted for new uses, to help reduce the scale of greenfield development

Land proposed for consideration will be added to our submitted sites register and a high-level review of the site will be undertaken by officers. This exercise is purely a data gathering exercise about locations that may be available for development. Land submitted to the councils through this process will only gain planning status if they are taken forward as an allocation within the Joint Local Plan. This Call for Land and Buildings Available for Change process does not grant planning permission to any sites submitted.

We hope your questions are answered here. If you need further information, contact the Planning Policy team (details below).

### **What happens after you submit land or buildings to us?**

The land or buildings will be added to our submitted sites register and a high-level assessment will be undertaken through a Land Availability Assessment. We will keep your details on record, and should the land or building be considered for allocation in the future, then we will get in touch with you to discuss the next steps.

### **What about land or buildings submitted to the Council in the past?**

Our new Land Availability Assessment will reassess all sites submitted to us through the Vale [Local Plan 2031](#) (both Parts 1 and 2) and South Oxfordshire [Local Plan 2035](#) process. If you would like to provide us with an update on a previously submitted site, please complete the form or get in touch with the Planning Policy team using the details below.

Sites previously assessed in South Oxfordshire

- [Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment](#) SHELAA (see folder 12 Housing, sub folder HOU01)

Site previously assessed in the Vale

- [Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment SHLAA](#) (see folder 07 Housing, sub folder HOU09); or
- [Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment HELAA](#) (see folder 012 Housing, sub folder HOU02),

The Vale also undertook a Call for Sites in 2020, and we have produced a list and a map of the sites submitted which can be viewed here:

- Site previously submitted to the Vale Local Plan 2041: [Register](#) and [Maps](#)

### **Other supporting documents and webpages**

The following documents and webpages have been provided to assist in completing your submission:

- [Advice on Highways Adoptions](#)
- [Oxfordshire Plan 2050](#)
- Planning Privacy Policy ([South](#) / [Vale](#))

### **What happens if Land and Buildings Available for Change are submitted to the councils after 30 September 2021?**

We are undertaking a Call for Land and Buildings Available for Change exercise for a six-week period to ensure the Joint Local Plan 2041 process can include a robust assessment of all known potentially available land in the district. However, that does not preclude Land and Buildings Available for Change being submitted after 30 September 2021. If Land and Buildings are submitted after 30 September 2021, they will be assessed, however they are likely to be assessed at a later stage of the plan-making process. In addition, some communities preparing Neighbourhood Plans may be interested in allocating sites and the Councils are aware that we may get

consulted on what sites have been submitted in their area following 30 September 2021. These sites would need to be considered in the Land Availability Assessment. All sensitive information, such as contact details and signatures, will not be made available to the public.

### **Will Land and Buildings Available for Change be considered for the Brownfield Land Register?**

The Brownfield Land Register ([South](#) / [Vale](#)) was first published on our website in December 2017 and is updated on an annual basis. The Government's Planning Practice Guidance requires local authorities to update the register at least annually taking into account any brownfield land (previously developed land as defined in the [National Planning Policy Framework](#)) within the district that could be available for housing redevelopment. Any sites submitted to the council that meet the definition for previously developed land set out in Annex 2 of the National Planning Policy Framework will be considered for the Brownfield Land Register.

### **Will Land and Buildings Available for Change be able to be considered through Neighbourhood Plans?**

Some communities preparing Neighbourhood Plans may be interested in allocating sites and the councils may share information with Neighbourhood Planning groups to help them in their allocation work.

### **We submitted the Land and Buildings Available for Change through the Call for Ideas as part of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050; do we need to resubmit the site again?**

We will consider all the sites submitted through the Oxfordshire Plan Call for Ideas, however if you have any further information regarding the site, please do submit this. A further [Call for Ideas](#) was launched 30 July 2021 and ran until 8 October 2021, this exercise is focused on large-scale housing or employment development, infrastructure projects, environmental schemes/designations or community schemes/developments. Where proposed locations are below the threshold for large sites they will with your permission, pass on your information and contact details to the council for consideration in the Joint Local Plan.

### **Is my site more likely to get planning permission if I submit it through the Call for Land and Buildings Available for Change?**

No. The submission of land or buildings, or even a positive assessment of a site, does not mean that the land or buildings will be included in the Joint Local Plan or that it will be granted planning permission in the future. The planning merits of the land or building submitted will be considered using the criteria and method set out in the relevant government guidance. The Call for Land and Buildings Available for Change is a data gathering exercise which collects an audit of locations that may be available for development. It does not grant planning permission to any sites submitted or state that the sites are suitable for development.

### **What is the timeframe for the new Local Plan 2041?**

The timeframe for the new Local Plan 2041 is set out within our Local Development Scheme (LDS). The Local Development Scheme can be found [here](#)

### **What will happen to my personal information?**

No personal information will be made publicly available. We will keep your details in line with our planning consultations privacy policy. We ask for your contact information so that we can contact you if your site is to be taken forward as a potential allocation within the Joint Local Plan process. You can find out how the council holds, uses and stores your personal data, here: [South](#) / [Vale](#)

Some communities preparing Neighbourhood Plans may be interested in allocating sites and the councils may share information with neighbourhood plan groups to help them in their allocation work. Similarly, information about submitted land and buildings may be used for work on the Oxfordshire Plan 2050.

**There is further guidance available on the Call for Land and Buildings Available for Change exercise and site selection on the National Planning Policy Guidance website. This can be viewed here:**  
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/housing-and-economic-land-availability-assessment>

**If you have any further questions on the Call for Land and Buildings Available for Change or the Joint Local Plan process, please contact the Planning Policy team using the following methods;**

- call us on 01235 422600,
- email [planning.policy@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@southandvale.gov.uk), or
- write to us at Planning Policy, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils, Planning Policy, 135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Milton, Abingdon, OX14 4SB.

**Please note the best way to contact us is by email. We prefer electronic submission of document, hard copies will have to scanned and will display in lower quality. If you submit electronically we do not need hard copies as well.**