

**Summary of responses to the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report:
Addendum for the Barton AAP**

N.B. These comments will be addressed and taken forward through later stages of the SA process.

Respondent	Section/topic	Comment
Natural England	Health	The latest health profile for Oxford highlights scores well below the national average for physically active children. Feel this data should be included in the assessment and measures bought in to rectify this. This could include the provision of accessible natural greenspace, and play areas which encourage natural play.
Natural England	Green spaces, leisure and recreation	The areas of green spaces listed are formal areas by nature e.g. recreation ground. Would like to see that the Accessible Natural Greenspace standards (ANGst) are used, to ensure that people have access to natural greenspace and not just mown and manicured playing fields.
Natural England	Soil	Would like to see that the Best and Most Versatile Land data is collected as part of this process.
Natural England	Biodiversity	One of the decision making criteria is 'Does it ensure no net loss biodiversity within development site or AAP area?' To be line with PPS9 Key Principle (ii); 'Plan policies and planning decisions should aim to maintain, and enhance, restore or add to biodiversity within development site or AAP area'
Oxfordshire Green Party	Flooding	We note that some of the site is subject to flooding. On inspection it looked to be a larger area than actually shown on the plan as the field next to the recreation ground is largely covered by reeds. At any rate it would seem that the areas play an important part in both draining and retaining water that flows into the Bayswater Brook. This brook carries water downstream to Marston and the Cherwell valley where there are high risk flood areas. We think that building on this area would greatly increase run-off and the removal of trees hedgerows and trees would also affect that areas ability to retain water thus increasing flood risk downstream. The Scoping Report does not mention any study or indicators for the SEA objective of reducing the risk of flooding that would measure the impact of building on loss of water retention and increase in surface water run-off. Given the real possibility of flood risk being increased downstream in Marston this needs to be addressed before suitability of the site for housing is determined.
Environment Agency	Additional indicator	We suggest that an additional indicator should be included, identifying the number of properties meeting Code for Sustainable Homes standards. This would be relevant for a number of topics including water resources, waste and climate change.
Environment Agency	Policies, plans and programmes	We note that the relevant policies, plans and programmes are identified in the LDF SA Scoping Report rather than the Addendum prepared for this AAP. However, the review of policies, plans and programmes needs some updating.
The Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust	SSSI	As you will be aware from the Biodiversity Assessment commissioned by Oxford City Council 2007, potential impacts on Sydlings Copse and College Pond SSSI have been identified and will need to be addressed. There are also various features of wildlife interest on the site which will need to be protected and enhanced. Provision of a route across the A40 to increase access to the countryside for residents to the south, is likely to further contribute to recreational pressure on the SSSI. The AAP needs to address this; it should include assessment of the likely level of increased recreational pressure to inform provision of appropriate mitigation. This might include provision of alternative, less sensitive, areas of natural greenspace either within the development site or in the wider area covered by the AAP. This should be taken into account in defining the areas to be included in the AAP.
The Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust	Biodiversity assessment	The Biodiversity Assessment makes several recommendations, all of which we support and would wish to see incorporated into the AAP. Suggested further studies; water vole survey and reptile survey.

Mr. M. Pitt	General comment	The report is superficial, misleading, inaccurate and very selective in its choice of data.
Mr. M. Pitt	Super output 500 area	Super output area 500 is not representative of Barton West as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Barton is an established area where one hopes the people living there have less need than when first offered the social house • Barton West will house 50% social housing with people in the most dire need This means that all the indicators will be brought down when Barton West is linked to Barton – it will become typecast as a ghetto, and do nothing to regenerate the area.
Mr. M. Pitt	Analysis of other areas	No analysis of impact on other adjacent areas especially Old Headington – transport, traffic, crime – the analysis concentrates solely on Barton West.
Mr. M. Pitt	General comment	The author appears to be more concerned with wildlife and archaeology than the outcome of people's lives.
Mr. M. Pitt	SA objectives	The single most important SA Objective is to measure the negative effects of placing people in an isolated ghetto with 50% social housing on the edge of a city. Precisely, what are the differential outcomes in education, generational poverty, sense of community and citizenship?
Mr. M. Pitt	SA objectives	Achievement of SA Objectives must be viewed city wide and not just for this development. SA objectives can be realised better by a city wide view.
Mr. M. Pitt	Social exclusion	Placing a ghetto of 50% social housing in an isolated area split from Oxford will lead to the worst social exclusion in the country. Poverty will increase as people are further from employment, and children will have low life expectations, leading to generational deprivation. Building specialist accommodation for students, key workers and temporary workers would improve Barton's image, and not lead to social exclusion by typecasting the suburb.
Mr. M. Pitt	Social exclusion	A bus crossing at Northway may give some easier access to the city, but this would still be quicker via London Road. The Stoke Place bike bridge would reduce isolation, but could be introduced independently.
Mr. M. Pitt	Educational achievement	Placing a large population of social housing tenants in one isolated spot, attending one school can only lead to reduction in expectations and poor educational outcomes. The only way to achieve this objective is to spread social housing through the city so the children of social housing tenants are absorbed into higher achieving communities.
Mr. M. Pitt	Impact of different socio-economic groups	In order of negative environmental/traffic impact low to high: Students, Key workers, Professionals, Social Housing tenants (more detail in submission).
Mr. M. Pitt	Environment	The development will destroy the most beautiful vista that can be seen from Oxford. The importance of the beautiful unimproved and wild fragment of countryside immediately south of the A40 at Stoke place and below Ruskin College is ignored, as is the importance of preserving the old footpath as it is.
Mr. M. Pitt	Noise	The extra noise from the A40 reflecting from barriers and buildings will have a negative effect on Old Headington.
Mr. M. Pitt	Traffic	It is very puzzling that the report presents the traffic flows in a positive light while ignoring the negative evidence from its own sources. Propose use of traffic growth data on the County Council's website - this indicates that the routes most affected by the new development have the largest traffic increases in the county. Oxford has a very high "in commuting" rate and has the fourth longest commute times in the UK, which means this must be a central issue.
Mr. M. Pitt	Traffic omissions	Other omissions include Marsh Lane, and the A4142 south of the A40, Saxon Way and Old Headington. Potential increase in foot traffic in the Old Headington area from Barton and Northway through the Croft has not been assessed. No even basic costing is done of the cost of major infrastructure improvements.
Mr. M. Pitt	Traffic	The report misrepresents the data contained in the original PBA report, which shows that the extra Barton Traffic will increase traffic by 22% (AM Peak) and 36% (PM Peak) with either Left in/out or A40 full access options on London Road.

Mr. M. Pitt	Environment	SA Objective should be added for preservation of Old Headington area.
Mr. M. Pitt	Travel to work	Dispute that the short distances travelled to work mean that it is sustainable when these distances are likely to be on congested roads at peak hours.
Mr. M. Pitt	Journey to work movements	Using the current average of the three wards on page 48 is the wrong methodology to predict the impact of the new development. It is also absurd to assume 5% of social housing tenants would be allowed to work at home.
Mr. M. Pitt	Crime	The crime statistics are, I suspect, statistically meaningless so should not be included. Examples should be sought of adjacent poor/rich suburbs and effects on crime rates.
Mr. M. Pitt	Economic growth and deprivation	On page 17 it states: "it seems reasonable to assume that the UK economy will return to previous levels of economic growth. Absolute levels of deprivation within the Barton area should therefore improve..." There is no evidence of this and it should be deleted.
Mr. M. Pitt	Housing tenure	Page 18 – there are other reasons for the relatively low level of owner-occupation including the high percentage of students, key workers and temporary residents who do not wish to buy and that it is attractive for landlords to rent as the council has not differentially taxed landlords.
Mr. M. Pitt	Crime and safety	Page 24 - a doubling of the population of Barton, greater proximity to Old Headington and the greater social deprivation which will result as explained makes the assertion that "no significant impacts are expected" dubious. Anti-social behaviour and other crime needs to be assessed.
Mr. M. Pitt	Services and community facilities	Dispute the location and proximity of shops and services in the area.