

Matter 6: Specific Sites; Policy SP42: John Radcliffe Hospital

The first question raised is: *Whether the Plan's site allocation policies are positively worded enough to encourage the delivery of beneficial development on the sites concerned and whether they would allow for sufficient flexibility in the face of future changes in circumstances.*

We wrote previously about the severe problems of traffic and parking at OUHFT Headington sites, particularly at the John Radcliffe Hospital, which present additional risks to ill patients and compromise the quality of care provided. Long traffic queues to enter the John Radcliffe site are increasingly blocking local roads as well as the site. We thank the Inspectors and Council for the changes made to the Plan in recognition of these difficulties. Specifically, we note that the Council has complied with requests from the Inspectors to remove references to parking reduction (or minimisation) in site-specific policies. However, we are concerned that the soundness of the Plan remains compromised and could potentially inhibit joint working between Council and OUHFT management to develop optimum solutions as the Headington sites are developed.

We wish to repeat our request that the special requirements of hospitals be explicitly recognised in the Plan by reintroducing wording similar to that used in a prior options version of the Plan. On this basis, we previously suggested the following: *Hospitals have a particular need for visitor parking. Site-specific policies will be developed with hospital trust management teams, promoting rationalisation of parking provision on the hospital sites, and recognising growing pressures from increasing numbers of hospital visits.*

Recognising requirements for travel plans, specific wording could also include: *"Where operational considerations require car parking provision to be reviewed onsite, the operational case for this will be demonstrated by the Trust in accordance with the comprehensive Transport Strategy for the Trust and accompanied by the site wide travel policies."*

This is an issue of pressing concern to local residents and the wider community, particularly in relation to the John Radcliffe site but also more generally to hospital sites in Headington.

With our thanks for your consideration of the need for explicit recognition of this specific issue.



John Harrison

On behalf of the Elected Governors of
Oxford University Hospitals Foundation Trust

5th November 2019