

Response ID ANON-M2Q4-48WF-D

Submitted to Oxford Local Plan 2045 Submission Draft (Regulation 19) Consultation
Submitted on 2026-03-13 11:25:01

Contact Information

1 Name

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5 Organisation Name (if applicable)

Organisation:
Canal & River Trust

6 In what capacity are you responding to this consultation?

Charity or Community Group, Other

7 If you are commenting on behalf of someone else, please state their name here. If you are representing more than one person or group we suggest making a separate submission for each.

acting as agent?:
The Canal & River Trust- Statutory consultee and charity

Data Protection Notice and Notification Options

8 Are you happy for the first line of your address and postcode to be published with your response(s)?

I am happy for the first line of my address and postcode to be published with my response.

9 Do you wish to be notified when:

the Inspector's report is published?, the Oxford Local Plan 2045 is adopted?

10 If your representation is seeking a modification to the plan, do you consider it necessary to participate in examination hearing session(s)? Please note: while this will provide an initial indication of your wish to participate in hearing session(s), you may be asked at a later point to confirm your request to participate.

I am not sure

11 If you wish to participate in the hearing session(s), please tell us why you consider this to be necessary. Please note: the Inspector will determine the most appropriate procedure to adopt to hear those who have indicated that they wish to participate in hearing session(s). You may be asked to confirm your wish to participate when the Inspector has identified the matters and issues for examination.

reason to attend hearings:

Policy H11: Homes for boat dwellers

73 Do you consider that policy H11 is sound?

Yes

74 If you do NOT consider policy H11 to be sound, please select your reasons why from the choices below. Please give precise details for your reasons in the box below - if you wish to support the soundness of the policy please also use this box to set out your comments.

h11 comments:

75 Do you consider that policy H11 is legally compliant? If you do NOT consider policy H11 to be legally compliant, please give precise details for your reasons in the box below - if you wish to support the legal compliance of the policy please also use this box to set out your comments.

Yes

h11 legal compliance comments:

76 Please set out, as precisely as possible, what change(s) you consider necessary to make the policy legally compliant and sound, in respect of any legal compliance or soundness matters you have identified above. You will need to say why the suggested change will make the Local Plan legally compliant or sound. It will be helpful if you are able to put forward your suggested revised wording of any policy or text.

suggested changes to make policy h11 sound:

Minor point regarding the supporting text.

In this section

- There is limited potential for additional sites in Oxford because of constraints such as the need to maintain safe navigation of the main river channels and avoiding conflict with the operational requirements of both the Canal and River Trust and Environment Agency.

Please add 'and Oxford Canal' i.e. main river channels and Oxford Canal' as the need to maintain safe navigation is also relevant to the canal.

Policy G1: Protection of Green Infrastructure

119 Do you consider that policy G1 is sound?

No

120 If you do NOT consider policy G1 to be sound, please select your reasons why from the choices below. Please give precise details for your reasons in the box below - if you wish to support the soundness of the policy please also use this box to set out your comments.

policy is NOT justified

g1 comments:

The Text of the policy mentions that Blue infrastructure includes (the rivers Thames and Cherwell, the Oxford Canal and smaller waterways between them). The text then divides Green (and blue infrastructure into Core spaces and supporting spaces.

The Trust consider that the Oxford canal should fall into the Core spaces category-

due to its fundamental role in supporting the city-wide network, providing wildlife habitat and corridor functions, flood storage, intensity of use and strength of heritage or other local value.

these benefits are typically intrinsic to the canal and cannot be easily re-provided elsewhere without compromising their character and/or function.

it is noted that neither the canal or river appear to be shown on the Map base as Green (blue infrastructure). It is hoped that this is simply a mapping error. If not then the Trust feel that this policy is not sound.

121 Do you consider that policy G1 is legally compliant? If you do NOT consider policy G1 to be legally compliant, please give precise details for your reasons in the box below - if you wish to support the legal compliance of the policy please also use this box to set out your comments.

Not Answered

g1 legal compliance comments:

122 Please set out, as precisely as possible, what change(s) you consider necessary to make the policy legally compliant and sound, in respect of any legal compliance or soundness matters you have identified above. You will need to say why the suggested change will make the Local Plan legally compliant or sound. It will be helpful if you are able to put forward your suggested revised wording of any policy or text.

suggested changes to make policy g1 sound:

It is noted that neither the canal or river appear to be shown on the Map base as Green (blue infrastructure). It is hoped that this is simply a mapping error. If not then the Trust feel that this policy is not sound. The Oxford Canal and River Thames should be included in the map base as Core Green Infrastructure.

Policy SPCW3: Canalside, Jericho

483 Do you consider that Policy SPCW3 is sound?

Not Answered

484 If you do NOT consider policy SPCW3 to be sound, please select your reasons why from the choices below. Please give precise details for your reasons in the box below - if you wish to support the soundness of the policy please also use this box to set out your comments.

spcw3 comments:

485 Do you consider that Policy SPCW3 is legally compliant? If you do NOT consider policy SPCW3 to be legally compliant, please give precise details for your reasons in the box below - if you wish to support the legal compliance of the policy please also use this box to set out your comments

Not Answered

spcw3 legal compliance comments:

486 Please set out, as precisely as possible, what change(s) you consider necessary to make the policy legally compliant and sound, in respect of any legal compliance or soundness matters you have identified above. You will need to say why the suggested change will make the Local Plan legally compliant or sound. It will be helpful if you are able to put forward your suggested revised wording of any policy or text.

suggested changes to make SPCW3 sound:

Comment

Bullet point j) The location, size and design of the public open space should consider, amongst other things the potential to land a bridge crossing and endeavour to avoid fettering any future opportunities to provide a bridge crossing.

It is noted that a bridge crossing is not required to be provided within the allocation site and. although bullet point l) requires the development to deliver improvements, specifically over the canal and towards Oxford City Centre along the towpath, this could be secured via financial contribution(s) where viable. this is welcomed to ensure that all possible options are considered.

Any bridge crossing will need the agreement of the Canal & River Trust and so its provision is in any case outside of an applicants' control. After extensive discussions over more than ten years it has not be possible to agree a suitable bridge position or design within the allocation site and flexibility to the policy wording regarding a bridge or improvements specifically over the canal should be considered.