

APPENDIX

Public Participation

Question submitted by Sharone Parnes:

Thank you for the kind opportunity to put the following Question to Cabinet. (I do so independently as an individual town councillor, and not on behalf of Woodstock Town Council). At Woodstock Town Council's meeting last week [August 9th], Cllr Graham was asked the following question but responded: "you're asking the wrong person, really; because that's not the County Council. That's not my role here". Cllr Graham's attendance in Woodstock was in the capacity of the town's County Council representative, and he explained: "It's a WODC question". As such, I would now be very grateful for his response through WODC's Cabinet, as Leader of West Oxfordshire District Council. (I have slightly modified the original question primarily to respectfully reflect the Leader's capacity at WODC).

Does Leader of the District Council think that the collapse of the 2050 local plan will mean that Oxfordshire is going to lose at least £30 million of infrastructure funding this year - which would obviously raise concerns related to development policy - and, as the growth Deal was conditional on a joint 2050 plan, does the Leader expect there is likely going to be a 'clawback' of the previous £120 million awarded to Oxfordshire; and will the £60 million for affordable housing be clawed back along with the £5million for producing the plan?

Answer provided by Giles Hughes, Chief Executive, West Oxfordshire District Council:

£30 million of funding from the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal is currently outstanding from Government. There is some risk to this funding as a consequence of the ending of the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 work programme. There does not appear to be a risk that other infrastructure or affordable housing funding that has been spent will be clawed back. If the £30 million outstanding is lost then that will unfortunately affect the delivery of infrastructure across Oxfordshire.

West Oxfordshire District Council will continue to engage constructively with the other Oxfordshire Councils, with other key stakeholders, and with our communities as we now focus on developing a new Local Plan. This will include work on a new Infrastructure Delivery Plan for the District to make sure that any new planned development is supported by infrastructure.