

OXFORD LOCAL PLAN 2036 PREFERRED OPTIONS STAGE

Economy Options

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Developing the vision

6 key themes

Oxford in 2036 is...



- Reduced inequalities
- Range of housing types and sizes
- Homes for key workers
- Easy access to wide range of facilities and services
- Diverse and cohesive community
- Communities with clear and distinct identities
- Sense of civic pride

Oxford in 2036 is...



- Healthy homes, quality living standards
- Access to excellent healthcare
- High participation in sport and recreation
- Access to green spaces
- Provision of healthy travel choices
- Significant improvements in air quality
- Health and wellbeing as key consideration

Oxford in 2036 is...



- Exemplar for low carbon development
- Energy needs greatly reduced
- Decentralised energy production from local, renewable, low carbon sources
- Reduced private car travel
- Good network of safe and accessible cycling and walking routes
- Zero emission mass transport system

Oxford 2036 is...



- Enhanced historic environment, townscape and landscape character
- High quality, new architecture integrates well its surroundings
- Every neighbourhood has access to high quality green spaces, cultural and community facilities
- Continues to attract many visitors, who stay longer and spend more
- Conflicts between different users in city centre are reduced

Oxford in 2036 is...



- Key contributor to national economy
- Attractive to investors
- A global centre for research, education and healthcare
- Home to high tech companies, start-ups and spins-offs
- A city of low unemployment
- Diverse employment opportunities
- Excellent opportunities for young people

Oxford in 2036 is...



- Innovation, at forefront of research
- Well educated workforce
- Businesses and institutions can access skills needed
- Local people able to fill jobs created
- Training and apprenticeship opportunities
- Up-skilling to help address divides across the city



Employment Land Assessment

Background evidence

ELA- Purpose

- Assessed quality and quantity of all employment land and premises (B1, B2, B8)
- Forecast job growth and demand for space
- Compared employment land supply against forecast demand
- Drew conclusions - do we have sufficient employment land of the right quality and in the right location to meet identified needs?

ELA- Overall Findings

- **Demand for employment land is in excess of current supply**
 - ▣ Demand for B1 floorspace is 65,800-105,000 m²
 - ▣ Demand for B2/B8 is also well in excess of current supply
 - ▣ Majority of sites perform well against assessment criteria

ELA Recommendations

- **Over-arching policy** which recognises the strengths of the key sectors and clusters that will drive economic growth and jobs for the city, but that equally Oxford's economy is characterised by its 'diversity' and 'resilience' in other employment uses.

ELA Recommendations

Recognise the following in the Local Plan:

- **Science and Research Hubs:** significant areas of offices for R&D, such as Old Road and Churchill.
- **City and District centres:** key role in providing office space. Designate them as **innovation districts?**
- **Additional sites:** some additional sites are important but not currently protected. Consider designation for employment use.
- **Modernisation and intensification** of existing sites should be positively encouraged.

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Local Plan Options

Overall aims

- Support and grow Oxford's economy
- Protect sufficient employment sites to deliver sustainable economic growth
- Help enable innovation, enterprise and research excellence as part of the Oxfordshire Knowledge Spine
- Show we have also considered demand for other uses, especially housing

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Potential Options for discussion

Options: Protection of existing sites

- Protect range of existing sites to support Oxford's diverse economic base?
- Protect only high-performing sites that contribute to knowledge economy (Science Park, hospitals etc)?
- Protect all sites ELA identifies as performing well, or only larger sites?

Options: Changes of use/mixed uses

- Allocate some sites for other uses (wholly or partly) due to their quality / location / inefficient use of land?
- Have site-specific policies for larger sites allocating a specific mix of employment types (and other uses) appropriate to location?
- Allow loss of B8 warehousing to other employment uses B1, B2 (or to other uses)?

Options: New employment

- Don't define any new employment sites?
- Define district centres/transport hubs, the city centre as key locations?
- Modernise existing science and research hubs as key locations?
- Require more/allocate more start-up/spin-off spaces?



Next steps

Local Plan programme

Visioning consultation



Preferred options consultation



Draft plan consultation



Submission



How to get involved

- Propose new options for policies Now
- Forward us any data/evidence Now
- Respond to the consultation Summer
 - ▣ As individual organisations
 - ▣ Collectively as the OSP
- Keep in touch with project: Throughout
www.oxford.gov.uk/localplan