**South Oxfordshire District Council**

**Local Plan 2035**

**DECEMBER 2020**

employment of around 88,000 people for Oxfordshire with an increase of 11,455 jobs in South Oxfordshire from 2011 to 2031. The 2017 ‘South Oxfordshire Employment Land Review Addendum’ (SOELRA’) examines the forecasts of the 2014 SHMA. Based on the SHMA, the SOELRA projects an increase of 12,403 jobs from 2011 to 2033.

* 1. To plan for the economic growth forecast in the 2014 SHMA, the SOELRA forecasts that 35.9 hectares of additional employment land is required in the district over the period 2011 to 2033. As this employment forecast ends at 2033, to account for the additional years in the plan period, a further 3.2 hectares is required. This results in a minimum requirement of 39.1 hectares of employment land in the district over the period 2011 to 2035.
	2. In order encourage sustainable economic growth and meet this requirement, the Local Plan identifies locations and allocations for employment throughout the district, dispersed between the Plan’s strategic allocations and the sustainable locations. This approach reflects the Local Plan’s spatial strategy.
	3. Our locations for employment are as follows, as set out further in Policy EMP1: Within Science Vale:
* Culham Science Centre and the adjacent strategic site;
* Didcot, albeit with some in the Vale of White Horse;
* the strategic sites in Berinsfield. At sustainable locations:
	+ The strategic sites in Chalgrove and Grenoble Road; the towns of Henley-on-Thames, Thame and Wallingford with sites to be identified in Neighbourhood Development Plans; and at Crowmarsh Gifford with sites to be identified in Neighbourhood Development Plans

Policy STRAT2: South Oxfordshire Housing and Employment Requirements

1. **During the plan period, provision will be made to meet the following requirements:**
2. **Housing requirements**
	* **South Oxfordshire Minimum Housing Requirement - 18,600 between 1 April 2011 and 31 March 2035;**
	* **4,950 homes addressing Oxford’s unmet housing need (between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2035).**
	* **Total housing requirement for the plan period 23,550 homes.**

**The annual requirement is as follows:**

* **2011/12 to 2025/26 - 900 homes per annum;**
* **2026/27 to 2031/32 - 1,120 homes per annum;**
* **2032/33 to 2034/35 - 1,110 homes per annum.**
1. **Employment land requirements**
	* **South Oxfordshire Minimum Employment Land Requirement 39.1 hectares between 1 April 2011 and 31 March 2035.**
2. **These requirements are to be delivered in accordance with the spatial strategy set out in STRAT1.**
3. **The locations and trajectory for housing development is identified in Policy H1.**
4. **The appropriate level of new housing and employment will be monitored and a review undertaken within five years following the adoption of the Local Plan, taking into account the most up-to-date evidence available at that time.**

This policy contributes towards achieving objectives 2 & 3.

# Didcot and Science Vale

* 1. Science Vale is already an international location for science and technology. From this strong starting point, we need to capitalise on Science Vale’s opportunity to provide an even better environment for business to flourish. Science Vale is one of the most successful science clusters in the UK. This activity is concentrated around the three centres for science at Harwell Campus, Culham Science Centre and Milton Park, but is supported by a number of important settlements. Didcot is at the heart of Science Vale. It makes the first and leaves the last impression on anyone travelling to Science Vale from elsewhere in the UK or from across the globe and it provides the ideal opportunity to act both as a gateway and a hub.
	2. The Local Plan’s vision for Science Vale in 2035 is grounded in continuing this story of economic success and channelling this prosperity into improved social and environmental wellbeing: the area will consist of thriving communities that have benefited from sustainable growth and the successful delivery of major infrastructure.

From this strong starting point, we need to capitalise on Science Vale’s opportunity to provide an even better environment for business to flourish