

# What future do we want? The Oxfordshire 2050 Plan?

**NEED**  
*not*  
**GREED**  
**OXON**

The Oxfordshire 2050 Plan (OP) will set the broad scale and pattern of future development in Oxfordshire from 2020 to 2050. **Need Not Greed Oxfordshire** (NNGO) believes the plan proposes excessive growth. If this plan is accepted it will be impossible for Oxfordshire to meet zero carbon commitments and would be detrimental to the environment and biodiversity.

Details: [www.oxfordshireopenthought.org](http://www.oxfordshireopenthought.org)

The Oxfordshire Plan 2050 consultation proposes 3 different growth options:

## 1 Standard Method

102,000 houses – 1 new house for every 3 we have now

## 2 Business as Usual\*

123,000 houses – far above existing growth rates; and

## 3 Transformational

153,000 houses – 1 new house for every 2 we have now

\*Actually not 'as usual' but continuing the inflated figures of the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal

**Over 78,000 houses are already included in local plans for Oxfordshire.** The Office for National Statistics (ONS) projection states that we only need 53,000 more houses between now and 2050. So, we already have more than enough houses in our plans.

Growth on this scale can only come by attracting far more people to live in Oxfordshire than has happened in the past – every year for 30 years.

The '**Standard**' option assumes twice as much growth as the official ONS figure. The '**Transformational**' option has three times as much.

The '**Transformational**' option means we would have to build new settlements as large as Banbury, Abingdon, Bicester, Wantage, Witney AND the whole of Oxford, by 2050.

**NEED not GREED OXFORDSHIRE**

Find out more: [www.neednotgreedoxon.org.uk](http://www.neednotgreedoxon.org.uk)

The Plan says that even at the lowest growth, *'negative effects are expected on all environmental factors: water, flooding, soils, biodiversity, landscape and heritage. Car traffic is also likely to [will] increase with associated climate change and air pollution impacts [and congestion]'*.

This Plan is driven by the government's aspiration to create thousands of additional jobs in the county, changing much of our green landscape to concrete in order to accommodate the new businesses, houses and infrastructure that would be required.

This is the opposite of the government pledge to level up the UK and will not make house prices more affordable, as our Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, made clear in his recent 'Level Up' speech: *"by turbo charging ... London and the South East – you drive prices even higher ..."*

**Need Not Greed** thinks that all these options are excessive and that:

- the need is not for more housing, but for more affordable housing;
- focusing so much development in the South East between Oxfordshire and Cambridge will make 'levelling up' the rest of the country impossible; and
- development on this scale will make a zero carbon, green and sustainable future for Oxfordshire impossible.



**This is important! Make your voice heard. Reply to the consultation by 8 October at:** [www.oxfordshireopenthought.org](http://www.oxfordshireopenthought.org)



**Check out the NNGO website for further information including a template response email** [www.neednotgreedoxon.org.uk](http://www.neednotgreedoxon.org.uk)

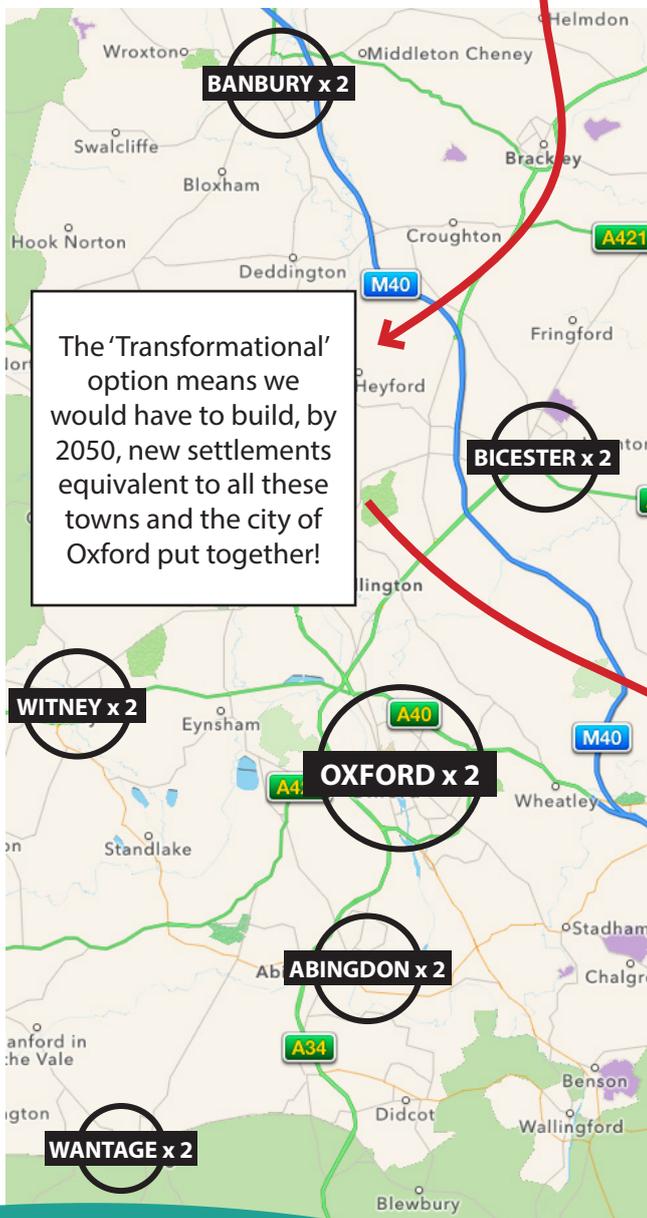
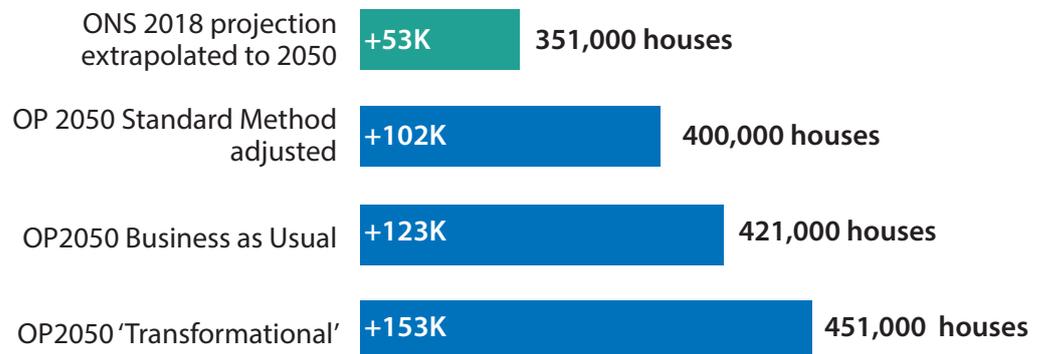


**And let your Councillors and MP know that you do not agree with the options presented. Find out who to contact here:** [www.writetothem.com](http://www.writetothem.com)

# This is what the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 could look like!

**NGOs believe all the proposed growth options in the Plan are excessive.** There were 298,000 houses in Oxfordshire in 2020. This bar chart shows the additional houses that the ONS predicts we should build by 2050, and the excessive Oxfordshire Plan (OP) proposals.

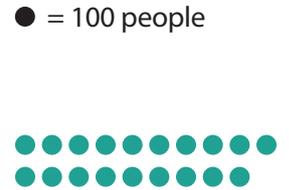
Oxfordshire housing stock at 2020 = 298,000



## This is not about meeting local need

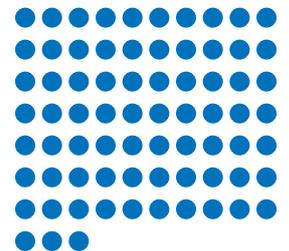
Net in-migration to Oxfordshire would have to increase dramatically in order to achieve these figures.

Average in-migration over the last 18 years = 1,900 per annum.

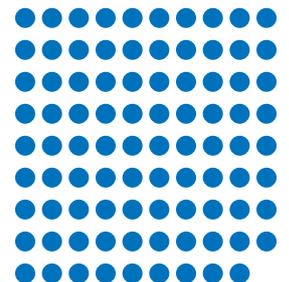


The proposed growth scenarios would need the following:

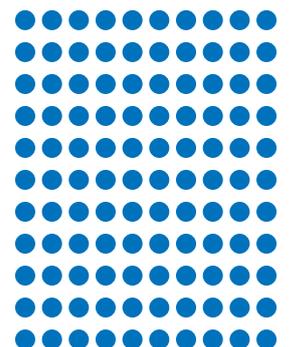
Standard method – 7,300pa (286% increase)



Business as usual – 8,900pa (369% increase)



Transformational – 11,000pa (480% increase)



As well as putting intense pressure on Oxfordshire's environment and rural character, such a movement of people is likely to have a severe impact on the Government's levelling up agenda and would be to the detriment of other parts of the UK.



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