



Ministry  
of Defence

Defence  
Infrastructure  
Organisation

Planning Policy Team  
South Oxfordshire District Council  
135 Eastern Avenue  
Milton Park  
Milton  
OX14 4SB

[REDACTED]

29 November 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

**Emerging Local Plan 2011-2033**

Thank you for consulting the Ministry of Defence (MOD) in relation to the above referenced consultation document.

The MODs principle concern relates to ensuring that tall structures especially tall buildings do not cause an obstruction to air traffic movements at MOD aerodromes or compromise the operation of air navigational transmitter/receiver facilities located in the area.

As you will be aware air traffic approaches and technical installations at MOD aerodromes are protected with statutory safeguarding zones which identify height consultation zones in the area surrounding MOD aerodromes relative to topography and distance from the sites.

The MOD statutory height safeguarding zone for the district of South Oxfordshire is for RAF Benson.

On reviewing the site allocations DIO Safeguarding wish to register the following comments:

Culham/Berinsfield and Didcot – the site allocations for housing, employment and mixed use fall within the statutory 91.4m aerodrome height safeguarding zone surrounding RAF Benson. Therefore, we would need to be consulted on development exceeding this height criterion.

Chalgrove Airfield – the mixed use site allocation falls within the statutory 15.2m aerodrome height safeguarding consultation zone surrounding RAF Benson, as well as the technical Precision Approach Radar (PAR) safeguarding consultation zone. Therefore, we would need to be consulted on development exceeding this height criterion.

Crowmarsh Gifford - the proposed housing allocation falls within the statutory any development aerodrome height consultation zone surrounding RAF Benson. Therefore, this office needs to be consulted at application stage to ensure this would not infringe aerodrome obstacle limitation surfaces.

In regards to the allocation for employment, the North site falls within the statutory 10.7m aerodrome height and technical safeguarding zone surrounding RAF Benson. The central site allocation falls within the statutory 45.7m aerodrome height and technical safeguarding zone surrounding RAF Benson. Therefore, we would need to be consulted on development exceeding this height criterion.

Nettlebed housing falls within the statutory all development/15.2m aerodrome height safeguarding consultation zone surrounding RAF Benson. Therefore, we would need to be consulted on development exceeding this height criterion.

Wallingford - employment site allocations fall within the statutory 45.7m aerodrome height safeguarding consultation zone surrounding RAF Benson. Therefore, we would need to be consulted on development exceeding this height criterion.

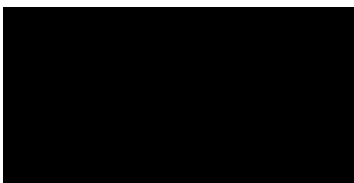
The above sites also fall within the statutory birdstrike safeguarding consultation zone surrounding RAF Benson. Therefore, we need to be consulted on SUDs schemes, open water bodies, wetland habitat, refuse/landfill sites etc these types of development have the potential to attract large and or flocking bird species hazardous to air traffic safety.

Those sites I have not mentioned do not fall within statutory safeguarding areas of interest. Therefore we would have no concerns to development within Wheatley.

**Please note the above comments are purely related to the DIO Statutory Safeguarding interests.**

I trust this adequately explains our position on this matter.

Yours sincerely



Debbie Baker  
DIO Safeguarding