



Ministry
of Defence

Defence Infrastructure Organisation

Safeguarding Department
Statutory & Offshore

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Our reference: 10050832

Dear Sir or Madam

Waterbeach Neighbourhood Development Plan 2020 to 2031

The Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) Safeguarding Team represents the Ministry of Defence (MOD) as a statutory consultee in the UK planning system to ensure designated zones around key operational defence sites such as aerodromes, explosives storage sites, air weapon ranges, and technical sites are not adversely affected by development outside the MOD estate.

This response relates to MOD Safeguarding concerns only and should be read in conjunction with any other submissions that might be provided by other MOD sites or departments.

Having reviewed the supporting documentation in respect of the Waterbeach Neighbourhood Development Plan, MOD DIO safeguarding can offer the following comments:

The main DIO safeguarding area of interest is the proposed Waterbeach New Town Strategic Site, (Policy SS/6 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan-Waterbeach New Town site allocation - allocated at the former Waterbeach Barracks.

This area occupies the statutory aerodrome height and birdstrike safeguarding zones surrounding Cambridge Airport, lying approx. 8km north of airfield centre. The northern locations within the NDP area from North Fen (Centre North) & Chittering (NW) occupy Cambridge Airport's birdstrike safeguarding zone only, at approx. 12km from the centre of the airfield.

The aerodrome height safeguarding zone serves to protect the airspace above and around aerodromes to maintain an assured, obstacle free environment for aircraft manoeuvre. This airspace needs to be kept free of obstruction from tall structures to ensure that aircraft transiting to and from or circuiting the aerodrome can do so safely. Within the birdstrike safeguarding zone, the principal concern of the MOD is the creation of new habitats may attract and support populations of large and, or, flocking birds close to the aerodrome.

An outline planning application S/0559/17/OL was approved by SCDC in September 2019 for up to 6,500 new homes and associated facilities. This was assessed under our reference DIO 10045518. DIO submitted an outline response detailing, in particular, our requirements to be consulted at Reserved Matters/Full planning stages with SUDS/Landscaping details & also details for crane management).

In summary, the MOD would wish to be consulted on any proposed development within the Waterbeach NDP area which consists of structures or buildings exceeding 45.7m Above Ground Level (AGL) and which also include landscaping and SUDS involving open waterbodies and bio-diverse roofs/ attenuation schemes.

I trust this is clear however should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Debbie Baker
DIO safeguarding