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Infrastructure
Organisation**

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**Safeguarding
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25th September 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

Highways England A303 Stonehenge (Amesbury to Berwick Down DCO application) TR010025

I am writing to you to provide an update to the Defence Infrastructure Organisation comments, on behalf of the Ministry of Defence (MOD) dated the 24th July 2019, regarding the Applicants proposed A303 Amesbury to Berwick Down DCO application.

The proposed scheme is 3.8km north of MOD Boscombe Down an airfield used by the MOD and to test and evaluate aircraft, the application site occupies statutory safeguarding zones surrounding the aerodrome which serve to protect the Obstacle Limitation Surface (OLS) and birdstrike safeguarding zone.

Where an application site falls within an area designated on a safeguarding plan, a Local Authority is required, by Circular 01/2003, to consult either the Civil Aviation Authority and/or the Secretary of State for Defence as appropriate. This ensures that development can be assessed for compliance with the provisions of paragraph 95 of the National Planning Policy Framework which requires that new development does not adversely affect operational sites.

In my previous comments I identified there are sections of the A303 development which occupy the statutory aerodrome height and birdstrike safeguarding consultation zones surrounding Boscombe Down and requested DIO Safeguarding to be added to any list of consultees whose approval would be required when detailed design is assessed through any relevant Requirements.

Highways England on reviewing our submission have pro-actively engaged with DIO and addressed our concerns within the Outline Environmental Management Plan secured by requirement 4 of the Development Consent Order, this being:

Liaison with the MoD

The main works contractor shall consult with the MoD on the following matters where such consultation would be required under Circular 01/003 in respect of the relevant Safeguarding Maps for Boscombe Down Airfield:

- Site compound layouts, locations (with six figure grid references) and elevations, including storage proposals for materials, equipment and cabins;
- Plant locations (with six figure grid references), types, elevations and durations at each location; and
- detailed design of construction and operational drainage (including lagoons and planting around them) for the Scheme

MW-WAT14 Surface water drainage:

The main works contractor shall ensure that the surface water drainage system reflects the mitigation measures identified within the ES and conforms with Requirement 10 of the DCO. New ponds with permanent water shall be planted with reeds to ensure there are no visible areas of open water from the air.

I confirm DIO are satisfied Highways England have addressed our needs to be consulted at the detailed design stage as a Statutory consultee to engage and ensure the scheme will not impact on the operational capability of Boscombe Down.

Yours Sincerely

Louise Dale
Safeguarding Manager
DIO Safeguarding
Estates

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

Yours sincerely

Louise Dale
Safeguarding Officer – Estates
DIO