



**Defence
Infrastructure
Organisation**

**Safeguarding
Statutory**

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1st May 2020

National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol,
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By email only.

Dear Sir/Madam

Highways England M54 to M6 Link Road (DCO application) TR010054

I am writing to provide Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) comments on behalf of the Ministry of Defence (MOD) on the Applicants proposed M54 to M6 link road Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project application.

Proposed Development

The focus of the development is the creation of new highway linking M54 Junction 1 and M6 Junction 11. In addition to the new highway, works to support and facilitate the link road are proposed. These works include balancing ponds that form part of drainage attenuation and treatment systems; and works to install or alter existing signage.

Safeguarding Context

Some of the peripheral works proposed through the application fall within the designated safeguarding zones associated with RAF Cosford. These safeguarded zones are designed to secure aviation safety by ensuring that physical structures, whether permanent or temporary, are not introduced into those areas where aircraft may be operating.

Safeguarding Assessment

Works packages 35, 55a and 55c fall within the designated safeguarding area. It is unlikely that these works packages would have any impact on aviation safety as they will be at a substantially lower than aircraft would usually operate in this location.

To ensure the proposed development can be assessed and that any potential effect on the operation of the defence estate can be mitigated (in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 95 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2019), it is requested that MOD Safeguarding are kept informed throughout the application for Development Consent process and made aware of any amendments to the scheme.

In summary, DIO Safeguarding have no objection to the principle of the development in the form proposed, and request notification of any amendments to the scheme

I trust this sets out our position, however, should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

James Houghton
Senior Safeguarding Manager