



**Defence
Infrastructure
Organisation**

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Safeguarding Department
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Your reference:
Winchfield Neighbourhood Plan 2022 - 2037
Consultation under Regulation 16
Our reference:
10058855

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Planning Policy Team
Neighbourhood Planning
Planning Policy Team
Hart District Council
Harlington Way
Fleet
GU51 4AE

19th June 2023

Dear Planning Policy Team

It is understood that Hart District Council are undertaking a consultation regarding their Winchfield Neighbourhood Plan 2022 – 2037 under Regulation 16. This document will guide the future development of the parish.

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. For clarity, 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.

The MOD may be involved in the planning system both as a statutory and non-statutory consultee with statutory involvement stemming from consultation occurring as a result of the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Safeguarded aerodromes, technical sites and military explosives storage areas) Direction 2002 (DfT/ODPM Circular 01/2003) and the location data and criteria set out on safeguarding maps issued by Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities (DLUHC) in accordance with the provisions of that Direction.

Copies of these plans, in both GIS shapefile and .pdf format, can be provided on request through the email address above.

The MOD have an interest within the area covered by the Winchfield Neighbourhood Plan 2022 – 2037 consultation as it contains areas that are washed over by safeguarding zones that are designated to preserve the operation and capability of defence assets and sites. RAF Odiham, located to the South, benefits from safeguarding zones drawn to preserve the airspace above and surrounding the aerodrome to ensure that development does not form a physical obstruction to the safe operation of aircraft using that aerodrome. New development may have detrimental impacts depending on site location relative to safeguarded sites and assets. Additionally, RAF Odiham is washed over by a statutory birdstrike safeguarding zone, designed for birdstrike risk to be identified and mitigated.

Within the statutory consultation areas associated with aerodromes are zones that are designed to allow birdstrike risk to be identified and mitigated. The creation of environments attractive to those large and flocking bird species that pose a hazard to aviation safety can have a significant effect. This can include landscaping schemes associated with large developments, such as green and/or brown roofs/roof gardens on flat roof buildings, as well as the creation of new waterbodies. Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS) additionally provide an opportunity for habitats within and around a development. The incorporation of open water, both permanent and temporary, and associated ponds and wetlands provide a range of habitats for wildlife, including potentially increasing the creation of attractant environments for large and flocking bird species hazardous to aviation.

The MOD should be consulted within the Winchfield Neighbourhood Plan 2022 – 2037 of any potential development within the statutory technical safeguarding zones that surround RAF Odiham which consists of structures or buildings exceeding statutory safeguarding technical criteria, or any development in the statutory birdstrike safeguarding zone surrounding RAF Odiham which includes schemes that might result in the creation of attractant environments for large and flocking bird species hazardous to aviation in order that appropriate assessments can be carried out and, where necessary, requests for required conditions or objections be communicated.

I trust this clearly explains our position on this update

Yours sincerely



Chris Waldron
DIO Assistant Safeguarding Manager