



Defence Infrastructure Organisation

Kalie Jagpal

Ministry of Defence

Safeguarding Department

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Emily Catcheside
Oxfordshire County Council
County Hall,
New Road,
Oxford
OX1 1ND

31st January 2023

Dear Emily,

MOD Safeguarding – RAF Benson

Proposal: The dualling of the A4130 carriageway (A4130 Widening) from the Milton Gate Junction eastwards, including the construction of three roundabouts, A road bridge over the Great Western Mainline (Didcot Science Bridge) and realignment of the A4130 north east of the proposed road bridge including the relocation of a lagoon; - Construction of a new road between Didcot and Culham (Didcot to Culham River Crossing) including the construction of three roundabouts, a road bridge over the Appleford railway sidings and road bridge over the River Thames; - Construction of a new road between the B4015 and A415 (Clifton Hampden bypass), including the provision of one roundabout and associated junctions; and - Controlled crossings, footways and cycleways, landscaping, lighting, noise barriers and sustainable drainage systems- Additional Information received.

Location: A linear site comprising a corridor between the A34 Milton Interchange and the B4015 north of Clifton Hampden including part of the A4130 east of the A34 Milton Interchange, land between Didcot and the former Didcot A Power Station and the Great Western Mainline, land to the north of Didcot where it crosses a private railway sidings and the River Thames to the west of Appleford-on-Thames before joining the A415 west of Culham Station, land to the south of Culham Science Centre through to a connection with the B4015 north of Clifton Hampden

Grid Ref: 448964,191510
452091,193380
454779, 196270

Thank you for consulting the Ministry of Defence (MOD) on further information in respect of the above development, consultation correspondence was received by this office on 16 November 2022.

The Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) Safeguarding Team represents the Ministry of Defence (MOD) as a consultee in UK planning and energy consenting systems to ensure that development does not compromise or degrade the operation of defence sites such as aerodromes, explosives storage sites, air weapon ranges, and technical sites or training resources such as the Military Low Flying System. This letter sets out the MOD Safeguarding position.

The applicant has provided further information to support the Environmental Impact Assessment under Regulations 25 of the Town and County Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. The information provided relates to Utilities, Cumulative Impacts, Recreation, Minerals & Waste, Agriculture & Soils, Noise, Air Quality, Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment, Biodiversity, Arboriculture, Landscape & Visual Impact, Heritage, Flood, Drainage & Water Quality, Climate Change & Sustainability, Highways & Travel, Design, General Information (Extended cross sections are required at key locations to show the scheme in context with surroundings).

The application site occupies the statutory height, technical and birdstrike safeguarding zones surrounding RAF Benson.

After reviewing the application documents, I can confirm that the MOD has no safeguarding objections to this proposal.

The MOD must emphasise that the advice provided within this letter is in response to the information detailed in the developer's documents titled Environmental Statement Addendum dated October 2022, FCC Lagoon Cross Sections dated 21/10/22, Hanson Pond Section dated 7/11/2022 Triangular Pond Cross section dated 07/11/2022 drawing number GEN_PD ACM GEN DGT_ZZ_ZZ_ZZ DR T 0104 Rev P0, Additional Information and document list sent to Oxford County Council dated 14/11/2022. Any variation of the parameters (which include the location, dimensions, form, and finishing materials) detailed may significantly alter how the development relates to MOD safeguarding requirements and cause adverse impacts to safeguarded defence assets or capabilities. In the event that any amendment, whether considered material or not by the determining authority, is submitted for approval, the MOD should be consulted and provided with adequate time to carry out assessments and provide a formal response

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

Yours sincerely

Kalie Jagpal
Assistant Safeguarding Manager
DIO Safeguarding