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**From:** DIO-Safeguarding-Statutory (MULTIUSER) <DIO-Safeguarding-Statutory@mod.uk>  
**Sent:** 12 October 2017 13:51  
**To:** Planning Policy Vale  
**Subject:** 20171012-Local Plan 2031 Part 2 Publicity Period-MOD response  
**Attachments:** 20171012-Vale of the White Horse Local Plan 2031-MOD response..pdf

DIO ref: 10041489  
Planning ref: Local Plan 2031 Part 2 - Publicity Period

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find attached my letter confirming the safeguarding position of the Ministry of Defence in respect of the above consultation.

Kind Regards

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Website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wind-farms-ministry-of-defence-safeguarding>



Ministry  
of Defence

## Defence Infrastructure Organisation

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12 October 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

### **Local Plan 2031 Part 2 Publicity Period**

Thank you for consulting the Ministry of Defence (MOD) in relation to the above referenced consultation document.

The MODs principle concern relates to ensuring that tall structures especially tall buildings do not cause an obstruction to air traffic movements at MOD aerodromes or compromise the operation of air navigational transmitter/receiver facilities located in the area.

As you will be aware air traffic approaches and technical installations at MOD aerodromes are protected with statutory safeguarding zones which identify height consultation zones in the area surrounding MOD aerodromes relative to topography and distance from the site(s).

The aerodromes are also protected with statutory birdstrike safeguarding consultation zones. Therefore, DIO Safeguarding is concerned with the development of open water bodies, the creation of wetland habitat, refuse and landfill sites. These types of development have the potential to attract large flocking bird species hazardous to aviation safety.

The MOD statutory height safeguarding zones surrounding the Vale of The White Horse District are for the main operational bases RAF Benson and RAF Brize Norton.

On reading the Local Plan 2031 Part 2 Publicity Period documents, I wish to register the following comments:

Development at Kingston Bagpuize falls within the statutory 91.4m aerodrome height safeguarding consultation zone surrounding RAF Brize Norton.

The Science Vale/Garden Town in Didcot falls within the 91.4m aerodrome height safeguarding consultation zone surrounding RAF Benson. Therefore any development exceeding this height criterion should be referred to this office for review.

The allocation for development within Harwell Village falls within the statutory 45.7m aerodrome height safeguarding consultation zone surrounding RAF Benson. Therefore any development exceeding this height criterion should be referred to this office for review.

The above mentioned sites also fall within the statutory birdstrike safeguarding consultation zones as mentioned earlier this office would need to be consulted on any SUDs schemes or development including the creation of balancing ponds. As these types of development may have the potential to attract flocking bird species hazardous to air traffic safety.

The allocation for development at Milton Park falls within the MOD statutory height 91.4m safeguarding zone surrounding RAF Benson. Therefore any development at this location exceeding this height criterion should be referred to this office for review.

The remaining sites fall outside of statutory safeguarding zones therefore the MOD has no safeguarding concerns.

Please note the above comments are purely related to the DIO Statutory Safeguarding interests.

I trust this adequately explains our position on this matter.

Yours sincerely

Debbie Baker. DIO Safeguarding