

Planning

HEAD OF SERVICE: ADRIAN DUFFIELD



Listening Learning Leading

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Textphone users add 18001 before you dial

Your reference:
Our reference:

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Dear Ken,

Thank you for your letter setting out your approach to housing development at Chalgrove Airfield.

South Oxfordshire District Council welcome the continued commitment from Homes England to bring forward the site at Chalgrove Airfield for development. The Council also welcome your stated intention to retain Martin-Baker Aircraft Company Limited (MBACL) on site.

With reference to progress on the South Oxfordshire Local Plan, I can advise that the extension to the public consultation period and volume of responses have impacted on our timetable and we are now beyond the date we thought we would be able to submit the Local plan for examination. The Council will shortly be publishing an updated Local Development Scheme to set out the likely changes to the Local Plan timetable. This will indicate that the revised date for submitting the Local plan for examination is end March/start April 2018.

Your letter indicates that, in the event that an agreement with MBACL cannot be reached, that Homes England would be prepared to seek approval to use its statutory powers, including a Compulsory Purchase Order. I would be grateful if you would confirm whether such an approach would also include the use of such powers to bring forward land outside the ownership of Homes England to ensure necessary off site highways infrastructure can be delivered.

I would be grateful to receive a detailed timetable and description of the process which is entailed with bringing forward development at Chalgrove Airfield. Please clarify whether the approval of Minister(s) has been sought to embark upon this approach and what, if any, formal steps have commenced to ensure this can be delivered.

This site is included within the Council's forthcoming Local Plan to deliver much needed housing and infrastructure. As such the housing trajectory to reflect all committed and planned development has been informed by the discussions

regarding likely start dates for construction. Whilst there is some flexibility within the trajectory, please would you outline your anticipated programme for the delivery of housing at Chalgrove Airfield and in particular when you envisage obtaining whatever consents are needed to commence the CPO process; the timescales for each prior stage before making a draft Order; the timescales for each key stage from then until confirmation of the Order; and key stages from confirmation until the actual delivery of homes on the site (where any stages might overlap rather than being consecutive please indicate this).

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely



Holly Jones
Planning Policy Manager