



From the Joint Managing Directors' office

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22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018

Mr Mark Stone  
Chief Executive  
South Oxfordshire District Council  
135 Eastern Avenue  
Milton Park, Milton  
Oxfordshire  
OX14 4SB

Dear Mr Stone,

We understand that at the SODC Cabinet meeting on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March, Homes England inferred that they were still negotiating with Martin Baker for the sale of our lease on part of Chalgrove Airfield. We want to make it absolutely clear that nothing has changed since the letter from our solicitors, Gowling WLG, dated 5<sup>th</sup> December 2017 ( a copy of which is attached) and that negotiations are finished without agreement.

The reason for not reaching agreement relates solely to Martin-Baker's operations as set out in the attached letter and expanded in the attached note. Our operational requirements are not going to change and therefore, there is no prospect that a negotiated agreement can be reached. Martin-Baker has no intention to continue discussions with Homes England.

We will strongly and rigorously oppose any attempt to Compulsory Purchase any part of our lease on Chalgrove Airfield on technical and strategic defence grounds.

We will also challenge the allocation if pursued through the Local Plan process on the same grounds. Chalgrove airfield is not a site which is available as a strategic housing site and to continue with its inclusion makes the Local Plan unsound in terms of housing delivery.

Yours sincerely

James W Martin CBE FREng MA BAI FRAeS CEng  
Joint Managing Director

A Corporate Partner of



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