



Department
for Transport

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From the Secretary of State
The Rt. Hon. Grant Shapps

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Dear James,

18 SEP 2019

Thank you for your letter of Wednesday 4 September 2019, providing an update about Chalgrove Airfield and enclosing additional analysis of the impacts of the proposed housing development on the operations of Martin-Baker Aircraft Company Limited (MBACL).

As you are aware, general aviation (GA) is a high priority area for the Department for Transport. The government wants to preserve the benefits derived from GA and ensure appropriate and proportionate protection for the significant parts of the network that underpins that contribution. I know that Chalgrove Airfield offers a wide range of services to aircraft and emergency services, and these are of vital importance.

I also appreciate that MBCAL has significantly contributed to the aviation industry, saving over 7000 lives with its ejector seats and engaging with customers both domestically and internationally.

I have therefore passed on the information you sent me to my officials, who are currently looking into the proposed development affecting Chalgrove Airfield. They will then provide me with advice on the options to explore, and I very much encourage you to work with them.

Yours sincerely,

Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT

