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04 Jul 2016

Dear Iain Livingstone,

**Your Reference:** OL/TH/16/0550

**Our Reference:** 10036288

**MOD Safeguarding Manston Airfield**

**Proposal:** Comprehensive redevelopment of the site involving the demolition of existing buildings and structures and removal of hard standing and associated infrastructure, and .

**Location:** Manston Airport Manston Road Manston RAMSGATE Kent  
Kent

England

**Planning Reference:** OL/TH/16/0550

Thank you for consulting the Ministry of Defence (MOD) on the above proposed development which was received by this office on 08/06/2016.

This proposal is for an outline application for the comprehensive redevelopment of the site on land at Manston Airport, Manston Road, Kent. The proposed application site lies within the statutory technical safeguarding consultation zone surrounding Manston airfield.

At this stage details of the size and design of the buildings are not available and only an indicative layout for the proposed development has been provided. However, based upon this outline information an initial technical assessment has been completed and we can provide the following advice.

The proposed development site is in close proximity to the main runway and within the safeguarding area protecting the operation of the High Resolution Direction Finder (HRDF). The HRDF is used to precisely locate transmissions from aircraft and supports the delivery of air traffic control functions. However, its key role is to precisely locate transmissions from emergency transponder beacons on aircraft (both military and civilian) or on military aircrew that have bailed out of their aircraft. In this role the HRDF most serves an integral part of a UK wide network (the UK Diversion and Distress Facility) which is used to locate aircraft or personnel and direct rescue services. Maintaining the operational effectiveness of this technical installation is therefore critical to maintaining the UK emergency response capabilities for the management of air safety incidents.

Due to the proximity of the proposed development to this MOD installation, the buildings would cause a physical infringement of MOD technical safeguarding criteria that ensures the HRDF's operational capability is not impeded or degraded. As such, the MOD objects to this proposal in its current form.

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

Yours sincerely

Louise Dale

