Ministry of Defence

Defence Infrastructure Organisation

Julie Mitchell
Wiltshire Council.
County Hall,
Bythesea Road,
Wiltshire.
BA14 8JN

Safeguarding Department
Statutory & Offshore

Defence Infrastructure Organisation
Kingston Road
Sutton Coldfield
West Midlands
B75 7RL

Tel: 07970170934
E-mail: DIO-safeguarding-statutory@mod.gov.uk

www.mod.uk/DIO

Your reference: PL/2023/11131
Our reference: DIO10049197

30 September 2024

Dear Julie,

MOD Safeguarding – MOD Boscombe Down

Proposal:	**Change of use of land to clay pigeon shooting school, stationing of portable office and toilet blocks, use of farmyard as car parking.**
Location:	**Beacon Hill Farm, Allington Track, Allington, Amesbury, SP4 0EL.**
Grid Ref:	**419459 142022**

Thank you for consulting the Ministry of Defence (MOD) on the Management Schedule Agreement dated August 2024 submitted in support of the above change of use application. Consultation was received by this office on 29 August 2024.

The Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) Safeguarding Team represents the Ministry of Defence (MOD) as a consultee in UK planning and energy consenting systems to ensure that development does not compromise or degrade the operation of defence sites such as aerodromes, explosives storage sites, air weapon ranges, and technical sites or training resources such as the Military Low Flying System.

The current consultation relates to an application for the change of land use of land to provide a clay pigeon shooting school and associated parking area. Application documents detail the siting of a portacabin to be used as an office, a toilet block, and moveable structures that would accommodate clay traps and shooting stands. The proposed use is to operate 6 days per week from 9am to dusk or 6pm. Competitions would be run approximately 24 times per year.

The application site is approximately one kilometre from MOD Boscombe Down and falls within statutory safeguarding zones drawn around that aerodrome specifically, zones which are triggered by any development where key concerns would be the height of structures, their massing, the materials used in their construction, and the potential for development to result in environments that might attract or support populations of those large and/or flocking bird species hazardous to aviation safety. In addition, the site is within statutory safeguarding zones drawn around Middle Wallop and Netheravon

within which the potential for development to result in environments that might attract or support populations of those large and/or flocking bird species hazardous to aviation safety is the key concern.

The MOD has previously responded to consultation with a letter dated 22 February 2024. A requirement for a condition was identified with that letter which required the submission, approval, and implementation of a Management Schedule Agreement designed to minimise the potential for the proposed development to degrade aviation safety.

Following that letter the applicant has worked with MOD Boscombe Down to produce that Management Agreement Schedule. The submitted Management Schedule Agreement (dated August 2024) that forms the subject of the current consultation has been reviewed and is considered to address MOD concerns.

Subject to the proposed development being managed and operated strictly in accordance with the details set in the Management Schedule Agreement dated August 2024 the MOD has no objection to the proposed development.

In addition to the above, an informative should be attached to any consent issued which states:

> **The application site is located close to an operational military aerodrome. You are reminded that it is a criminal offence, under the provisions of article 240 of the Air Navigation Order 2016 (as amended), for any person to recklessly or negligently act in a manner likely to endanger an aircraft, or any person in an aircraft.**

I would be grateful if you could confirm receipt of this letter and confirm that a relevant condition covering the MOD's requirements is included in any consent granted.

The MOD must emphasise that the advice provided within this letter is in response to information detailed in the developer's documents titled 'Management Schedule Agreement' dated July 2024. Any variation of the parameters (which include the location, dimensions, form, and finishing materials) detailed may significantly alter how the development relates to MOD safeguarding requirements and cause adverse impacts to safeguarded defence assets or capabilities. In the event that any amendment, whether considered material or not by the determining authority, is submitted for approval, the MOD should be consulted and provided with adequate time to carry out assessments and provide a formal response.

As per Planning Circular 01/03: Safeguarding Aerodromes, Technical Sites and Military Explosives Storage Areas, if Wiltshire Council decides to grant planning permission contrary to our advice then we must be notified 28 days prior to a decision being made.

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

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

Teena Oulaghan
Safeguarding Manager
DIO safeguarding