



Ministry of Defence

Secretariat
Defence Infrastructure Organisation
Kingston Road
Sutton Coldfield
B75 7RL

E-mail: diosec-parli@mod.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/DIO

28 March 2019

Ref. FOI 2019/02642

Thank you for your email of 27 February 2019 requesting the following information:

"We are currently working on behalf of Highways England on the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway project.

<https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/oxford-to-cambridge-expressway/>

We have previously been in touch with your organisation to request dataset/shapefiles of aviation and military sites for the project.

We would like to further request if you could provide the 'Safeguarded map of civil or military aerodromes/airfields' of Chalgrove Airfield.

Notwithstanding, it is assumed that the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway is a nationally significant infrastructure project (NSIP) requiring a Development Consent Order(s) (DCO) under the processes set out in the Planning Act 2008. Accordingly, the application for an order granting development consent will be assessed against the National Networks National Policy Statement 2014 (NN NPS). Paragraphs 5.46 - 5.66 of the NN NPS set out policies in regards to civil and military aviation and defence. These paragraphs make references to the following sites/assets:

- 1. MoD Air Defence radars*
- 2. MoD Meteorological radars*
- 3. CNS infrastructure (communications, navigation and surveillance)*

As such, would you be able to provide the above information, preferably in a GIS/map format?"

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held.

With regards to your request for an aerodrome safeguarding map for Chalgrove Airfield, I can confirm ownership of Chalgrove Airfield has been transferred to Homes England. I would urge you to redirect your enquiry to them on the following email address: enquiries@homesengland.gov.uk.

A response to your request for information relevant to the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway project can be found below:

1. No information in scope of this item is held.
2. No information in scope of this item is held.
3. The MOD safeguarding zones for Communications, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS) infrastructure that extend over the search area identified for this project are contained in the aerodrome and technical site safeguarding plans previously provided to you under FOI12883.

Under Section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it helpful to note that the search area identified for the possible Oxford to Cambridge Expressway route options is not covered by the safeguarding zones protecting MOD Air Defence Radar sites. In addition, the Met Office is no longer part of the MOD and therefore the MOD does not hold current safeguarding plans for meteorological radars.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance.

If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made in writing within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

DIO Secretariat