



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

PLANNING DECISION NOTICE

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London
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*Ministry of Housing, Communities &
Local Government*
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E-mailed to: b [REDACTED]
CC: [REDACTED]

06 August 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (FORMER RAF AIRFIELD WETHERSFIELD) (ACCOMMODATION FOR ASYLUM-SEEKERS ETC.) SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT ORDER 2024 ("THE ORDER")

Secretary of State Decision: Approve

Thank you for your recent request under article 5(3) of the Order for the approval of a replacement of the Phasing Scheme (given relevant approval in January 2025).

Location: The land at Former RAF Airfield Wethersfield,
Braintree, Essex CM7 4AZ

Approved Drawings / Documents: Phasing Scheme referenced 250721-HO-UP-21-
Condition-21- Phasing-Scheme-July-2025.

250721-HO-UP-26-Condition-26-Local-Services-
Programme-Wethersfield-July-2025. Summary -
Schedule 3 Para 26(5)(b)(ii)

250721-HO-UP-19-Operational-Management-Plan-
v3.92

Other documents: Mid South Essex NHS Letter re Wethersfield capacity
21 July 25.

I have considered your request on behalf of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, together with the consequential variations, that are non-material, you have proposed to the Operational Management Plan and Local Services Programme.

A decision has been made to give Relevant Approval to the replacement Phasing Scheme and the variations to the Operational Management Plan and Local Services Programme. This approval is subject to the additional conditions listed in Annex 1.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Annex 1 – Conditions

1. No more than 1,245 service users may be accommodated on the Order land at any time.

Reason: The details submitted pursuant to Schedule 3, Part 1, Condition 21 (Phasing Scheme) relates to phases and arrangements in relation to facilities and services for a maximum occupancy of 1,245 service users.

2. The inflow of service users to the Order land shall not exceed 50 individuals per day or 100 individuals per calendar week.

Reason: The details submitted pursuant to Schedule 3, Part 1, Condition 21 (Phasing Scheme) relates to adjustments of facilities and services on the basis of this inflow rate.

Annex 2 – Informatives

1. A further submission and approval pursuant to Schedule 3, Part 1, Condition 21 (Phasing Scheme) will be required to secure service user occupancy in excess of 1,245 service users, or for service user inflows greater than 50 per day or 100 per week.
2. If any material changes are required to the Phasing Scheme (referenced 250721-HO-UP-21-Condition-21-Phasing-Scheme-July-2025) the Home Office must make a subsequent submission and seek approval pursuant to Schedule 3, Part 1, Condition 21 (Phasing Scheme).
3. Variations that are considered non-material have been made to the Operational Management Plan (Version 3.91) and the Local Services Programme (December 2024) to align with the updated Phasing Scheme. These amendments do not alter the approved operational approach. However, to ensure clarity, consistency, and transparency in the operational framework, the revised documents will be published on Gov.uk alongside the previously published versions of the Operational Management Plan and Local Services Programme.