

AERODROMES UPDATE

(Updated 15 April 2020)

Aerodrome	Current Status
Andrewsfield	Braintree, Colchester and Tendring Councils are jointly developing a Local Plan for North-East Essex with an area including Andrewsfield aerodrome earmarked for a garden community with ultimately 10,000 homes. The definitive Local Plan is the subject of Public Examination with the Planning Inspector raising concerns about the proposal which the Councils have addressed by a further public consultation and with additional public hearings that ended on 30 January 2020.
Bourn	Site earmarked for some 3,500 homes in 2031 Local Plan adopted by South Cambridgeshire District Council on 27 September 2018. A planning application for the development has been submitted.
Bourne Park	Planning application made on behalf of site owner to Test Valley Borough Council for demolition of buildings associated with Bourne Park Airfield and removal of existing airstrip and outdoor storage areas leading to cessation of all aeronautical activity.
Cambridge	Marshall Group will be vacating the aerodrome by 2030 and relocate to Cranfield or Wyton (see page 2) with Duxford being rejected as unsuitable. The Group has stated its intent to the local authorities to put the site forward for development as part of the next Local Plan from 2030.
Chalgrove	After a reassessment, site included in South Oxfordshire District Council draft 2034 Local Plan submitted for public examination on 29 March 2019 for a 3,000-home development with a new runway for Martin-Baker Aircraft (MBA) operations. Homes England (HE) the land owner has stated that they will use their CPO powers if current negotiations about the development with MBA (their tenant) who wish to protect and expand their operations, are unsuccessful.
Deenethorpe	Site accepted under the Government's Garden Village scheme for development with up to 1,500 homes. East Northamptonshire Council approved the site masterplan on 15 October 2018 and a planning application for the development is expected soon.
Dunsfold	Planning application for mixed use development with 1,800 homes on site approved by Waverley Borough Council on 14 December 2016 but called in for a Public Inquiry the result of which was Central Government approval for the application on 29 March 2018. Protest groups appealed these decisions in the High Court but the Court rejected these challenges on 5 November 2018. The development has now been granted Government Garden Village status.
Elvington	York City Council definitive Local Plan submitted for Public Examination on 25 May 2018 with public hearings commencing on 10 December 2019 includes a development of up to 3,330 homes occupying the middle section of the runway.
Fairoaks	Planning application for 1,000-home Garden Village on site withdrawn on 10 February 2020 but is expected to be resubmitted later. An alternative scheme ("Fairoaks 2020") that retains the aerodrome, originally put forward by a local opposition group, has been included in proposals from Unity Land LLP. Public consultation ended on 30 July 2018 on Surrey Heath Borough Council's draft Local Plan options document which states that for Chobham "Employment and Retail - Sets out that development at Fairoaks Airport should be guided by a development brief / masterplan."
Halfpenny Green (Wolverhampton Business Airport)	MCR Property Group, the site owner, has apparently put the aerodrome up for private sale at an asking price of £7.5 million. In September 2018 South Staffordshire Council approved a Site Allocation Document expanding on the previously adopted Core Strategy for their emerging Local Plan which states that the airport is allocated and protected for employment purposes. The planned construction by MCR of 112 homes on south-west corner of site and aerodrome improvements including 3 new hangars appears to have been abandoned.
Hullavington	Aerodrome site has been sold to Dyson Ltd who has renovated two existing Type D hangars as research centres and obtained outline planning permission from Wiltshire Council for a site wide masterplan excluding use of the main runway. A full planning application to extend the runway and construct a private hangar was withdrawn on 1 November 2019.
Langar	Aerodrome currently occupied / operated by British Parachute Schools sold in January 2019 to the owner of Nottingham City (Tollerton) aerodrome (see entry on page 3). Emergency runway 01/19 is being leased for the testing of experimental autonomous cars.
Long Marston	Aerodrome is designated in Stratford-on-Avon Local Plan adopted Core Strategy for housing and has Government Garden Village approval for which a planning application has been submitted. Developer is Cala Homes in conjunction with site owner. See entry for Wellesbourne on page 3.

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Manston	Examination period ended on 9 July 2019 into the application made by River Oak Strategic Partners (who have now purchased the site) for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to retain the aerodrome as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project. The Planning Inspectorate has made a recommendation on the application to the Secretary of State who has extended the deadline to make a decision until 18 May 2020. Thanet District Council definitive 2031 Local Plan submitted for Public Examination on 30 October 2018 with hearings commencing on 2 April 2019 recognises the existing use of Manston as an airport and provides for the DCO process to continue.
MoD Sites	The following MoD aerodrome sites are planned for disposal in the years indicated:
Abingdon Aerodrome 2024/25	Site earmarked for Garden Village style development with 1,200 homes in Vale of White Horse District Council 2031 Local Plan Part 2 adopted by the Council on 9 October 2019. Under the Plan, the development area is restricted to the south of the old runway 08/26.
Alconbury 2019	Major part of site already being developed with 5,000 homes.
Brawdy 2024	Cawdor Barracks. Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) have submitted site for mixed use development for the review of 2033 Local Development Plan 2 by Pembrokeshire Council but this is not included in the draft Plan issued for public consultation ending on 18 March 2020.
Colerne 2025	Aerodrome was originally expected to be sold in 2018. Local business interest in maintaining the aerodrome for aviation purposes.
Dishforth 2031	Aerodrome site being disposed of but not included for development in the 2035 Harrogate Borough Council Local Plan adopted by the Council on 4 March 2020 but site is expected to be considered during first review of the adopted Plan.
Halton Aerodrome 2022	The DIO future vision document for RAF Halton and the Aylesbury Vale District Council's definitive 2033 Local Plan do not include the aerodrome site for any development. Public Examination hearings of the Local Plan ended on 20 July 2018.
Henlow 2023	Future of the site being progressed by a partnership between the DIO and HE. Site earmarked for mixed use / specialist employment development in Central Bedfordshire Council draft 2035 Local Plan Part 2 submitted for Public Examination on 30 April 2018 with public hearings ending on 25 July 2019.
Linton-on-Ouse 2020	Under the Services out sourcing agreement with Ascent, basic fixed wing flying training will be conducted at RAF Valley in Anglesey rendering Linton-on-Ouse surplus to MoD requirements.
Mildenhall 2027	The Forest Heath (now part of West Suffolk) District Council Vision & Prospectus document for the site retains the aviation facilities including the runway.
North Luffenham 2022	DIO / Rutland County Council public consultation on Garden Village proposal for site ended on 15 June 2018. After further public consultation the proposed development will be included in the emerging 2036 Local Plan. Project accepted under Government Garden Village programme.
Scampton 2022	The resident Red Arrows display team are due to relocate to either of RAF Leeming, RAF Waddington or RAF Wittering.
Spitalgate 2024	Prince William of Gloucester Barracks. Future of the site being progressed by a partnership between the DIO and HE. Site earmarked for a Garden Village style settlement in South Kesteven District Council 2036 Local Plan adopted by the Council on 30 January 2020.
Swanton Morley 2031	Robertson Barracks. There is no reference to the closure of the Barracks in the definitive Breckland Council 2036 Local Plan adopted by the Council on 28 November 2019.
Tern Hill 2025	Clive Barracks. Shropshire Council strategic site consultation ending on 9 September 2019 includes a 750 home mixed use development of the Barracks site leaving the airfield intact.
Wethersfield 2025	Future of the site being progressed by a partnership between the DIO and HE with a new prison and housing being considered.
Wyton Aerodrome 2019	DIO has a Land Sales Delivery Partnership Agreement with property developer Crest Nicholson and proposed a 4,500-home development on site which is not included in the Huntingdonshire District Council adopted 2036 Local Plan but is in the Council's Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment. Marshall Group is considering relocating from Cambridge (see page 1) to the site. Planning application for up to 700 homes on north-west part of site withdrawn on 5 February 2020 pending sponsor review of plans.

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North Denes (Yarmouth Heliport)	The aerodrome with two grass runways is for sale having been disused since 2015 on the cessation of North Sea helicopter operations.
Nottingham City (Tollerton)	With the support of the land owner, site earmarked for up to 4,000 homes in Local Plan adopted by Rushcliffe Borough Council on 8 October 2019.
Old Sarum	Site owner's planning application for housing development and 10 additional hangars refused on appeal in a Planning Inspectorate decision letter dated 11 July 2019. The owner applied for a Judicial Review of this decision but the application was refused by the High Court. In a letter dated 25 July 2019 the owner gave notice of the termination of site licences from 31 October 2019 Aerodrome notified as closed without express approval to all movements requiring a licensed or certified aerodrome and ATZ withdrawn until 27 April 2020. Multi-year agreement reached with effect from 1 February 2020 for site to be used as a parachute centre and aerodrome notified accordingly.
Panshanger	Homes England has bought the aerodrome site from Mariposa Investments. A public consultation by Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council ended on 1 April 2020 into providing additional housing sites for the Local Plan which schemes preclude a realigned grass runway to the north of previous runway 11/29 proposed in the current draft Local Plan. An outline planning application to re-open the aerodrome has been submitted.
Peterborough / Sibson	Huntingdonshire District Council submitted an unsuccessful bid for a 2,500 home Garden Village on site. The Council subsequently withdrew their support for the proposal but the site is still listed in the Council's Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment.
Plymouth	FlyPlymouth, a local social enterprise aerodrome support group, plans to reopen the aerodrome and start regional airline services. Sutton Harbour Group, the site lease holder, have proposed a mixed-use development although the adopted Plymouth City / South-West Devon Joint Local Plan retains the site for aviation use at least until the first 5-year review of the adopted Plan.
Redhill	Tandridge District Council public consultation on four potential Garden Village sites including Redhill ended on 9 October 2017. The definitive 2033 Local Plan submitted for Public Examination on 18 January 2019 with hearings ending on 28 November 2019 has ruled out the site for a Garden Village and allocated it protected status as an Important Employment Site. The current draft Tandridge Local Plan earmarks the aerodrome for employment purposes and notes that the site is within the Green Belt with a high risk of surface water flooding. Part of the site is within the boundary of Reigate and Banstead Borough Council whose Local Plan proposal to safeguard the site for housing has been rejected by the Planning Inspector examining the plan.
Scatsta	Due to close in July 2020 as a result of off-shore oil and gas industry flight operations being transferred to Sumburgh.
Thurrock	Thurrock Council have issued to the landowner's agent a Scoping Opinion on an Environmental Impact Assessment for development of 750 houses, a medical centre and employment units on aerodrome site.
Wellesbourne Mountford	Stratford-on-Avon District Council Core Strategy stated policy is to "Retain and support the enhancement of the established flying functions and aviation related facilities at Wellesbourne Airfield". The Council have rescinded the owner's permitted development rights and have initiated negotiations for an agreed purchase of the site whilst also taking CPO action to acquire the site. £1.125 million has been set aside in the Council's 2019 / 2020 budget to fund the CPO action. Under a MoU dated 30 August 2019 between the Council and the site owners, the CPO action has been suspended for up to a year to allow the owners to propose limited development of the site whilst retaining the aviation facilities with some of the tenants being offered continued occupancy of the site to cover the period of the MoU.
Wycombe Air Park	Site lease holder (Helicopter Aircraft Holdings Ltd) has agreed new leases with the land owner, Wycombe District Council. The Council's adopted 2033 Local Plan provides for an industrial / warehousing complex on south-western part of the site requiring shortening of runway 35 and relocation of gliding activities to the north, for which changes a public consultation has been held.