

AERODROMES UPDATE

(Updated 28 September 2018)

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 serious concerns about the viability of the proposal.
Aylesbury/Thame (Haddenham)	Resident Upward Bound Trust Gliding Club given notice to quit; technical site adjoining landing / take-off area earmarked in Aylesbury Vale District Council definitive Local Plan for development.
Bourn	Site earmarked for some 3,500 homes in 2031 Local Plan adopted by South Cambridgeshire District Council on 27 September 2018 after completion of all planning procedures, including Public Examination.
Chalgrove	Aerodrome has been transferred from the MoD to Homes England (HE) and is occupied / operated by Martin-Baker Aircraft (MBA). Site included in South Oxfordshire District Council initial 2033 Local Plan for a 3,000-home development with a new runway for MBA operations but Plan being reassessed as concerns raised over infrastructure issues and availability of site within the Plan period. HE has stated that they will use their CPO powers if current negotiations about the development with MBA, who wish to protect and expand their on-site operations, are unsuccessful.
Deenethorpe	Site accepted under the Government's Garden Village scheme for development with up to 1,500 homes which development is supported by the Brudenell Estate, the site owner. Public consultations on a proposed site masterplan have been completed and a planning application is expected to be made in Summer 2018.
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 have been given leave to appeal these decisions in the High Court with hearings set for 9/10 October 2018.
Elvington	York City Council definitive Local Plan submitted for Public Examination on 25 May 2018 includes a development of up to 3,330 homes occupying the middle section of the aerodrome runway.
Fairoaks	Surrey Heath Borough Council made a confidential, unsuccessful bid to establish a Garden Village on site with public consultations starting in February 2017. A local opposition group presented in January 2018 an alternative scheme ("Fairoaks 2020") that retains the aerodrome. Public consultation ended on 30 July 2018 on 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." Outline planning application made on 12 July 2018 for a Garden Village on site with 1,000 homes but application has yet to be validated due to missing details.
Halfpenny Green (Wolverhampton Business Airport)	Aerodrome sold to MCR Property Group an investment and development company focused on commercial and residential real estate. The Group expected to complete an initial study by Autumn 2017 of future aerodrome income and investment that reportedly excludes housing on the site. A tenant has written to MCR inviting them to consider a consortium to run the aerodrome.
Hullavington	The former RAF Hullavington aerodrome site has been sold to Dyson Ltd who has now renovated two existing Type D hangars as research centres. Latest outline planning application by Dyson made to Wiltshire Council includes a site wide masterplan retaining both runways, extending the main runway and construction of a private hangar with a control tower.
Kemble (Cotswold Airport)	Commercial Estates Group proposal to build a 2,000-home sustainable village on this 'brownfield' site as an alternative to the Cotswold District 2031 Local plan proposal for a greenfield site near Cirencester. The Local Plan endorsing continued aviation use of Kemble has been through Public Examination and was adopted by the Council on 3 August 2018.
Langar	Aerodrome put up for sale – currently occupied / operated by British Parachute Schools.
Long Marston	Aerodrome is designated in Stratford-on-Avon Local Plan adopted Core Strategy for housing and has Government Garden Village approval with an adopted Supplementary Planning Document. Developer is Cala Homes in conjunction with site owner. See entry for Wellesbourne Mountford on page 3.

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Manston	Application made by River Oak Strategic Partners for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to retain the aerodrome as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project was accepted on 14 August 2018 initiating a nominal three-month pre-examination stage. Site owners have submitted a revised planning application for mixed use retaining 1,199 metres of the existing runway for limited use by heritage aircraft. Thanet District Council definitive 2031 Local Plan public consultation document has not allocated the site for any specific purpose to ensure that the DCO process is not prejudiced. The public consultation ends on 4 October 2018.
MoD Sites	The following MoD aerodrome sites are planned for disposal in the years indicated:
Abingdon 2029	Dalton Barracks - military units expected to be relocated by 2026. Site earmarked for Garden Village style development with ultimately 4,000 homes in Vale of White Horse District Council definitive Local Plan Part 2 for which Public Examination hearings started on 3 July 2018 with specific session on Dalton Barracks held on 26 July 2018.
Alconbury 2023	Major part of site already being developed with 5,000 homes.
Arbroath 2020	RMB Condor aerodrome – Press report that Angus Council will be given the site for a 2,500-home development.
Brawdy 2024	Cawdor Barracks.
Chivenor 2027	Local Government agencies lobbying to keep a military presence at this RM barracks.
Colerne 2018	Aerodrome sale rumoured being delayed to coincide with sale of adjoining Azimghur Barracks in 2031. Local business interest in maintaining the aerodrome for aviation purposes.
Dishforth 2031	Aerodrome site being disposed of but not included for development in the emerging 2035 Harrogate Borough Council Local Plan but is expected to be considered during first 5-year review of the adopted Plan.
Halton 2022	Aylesbury Vale District Council's definitive Local Plan does not include the aerodrome site for any development. Public Examination hearings of the Plan started on 10 July 2018.
Henlow 2020	Site earmarked for mixed use / specialist employment development in Central Bedfordshire Council draft Local Plan Part 2 submitted for Public Examination on 30 April 2018.
Mildenhall 2024	Forest Heath District Council Vision & Prospectus document for the site retains the aviation facilities including the runway.
Molesworth 2024	When vacated by the USAF, site due to be transferred to HE and currently earmarked for housing.
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.
North Luffenham 2021	Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) and Rutland County Council public consultation on Garden Village proposal for this site ended on 15 June 2018. Further public consultation to include proposed development in emerging Local Plan ended on 24 September 2018.
Scampton 2022	The resident Red Arrows display team are due to relocate to a yet unnamed aerodrome.
Spitalgate 2020	Prince William of Gloucester Barracks. Site earmarked for residential allocation in South Kesteven District Council definitive Local Plan document issued for public consultation ending on 23 July 2018.
Swanton Morley 2031	Robertson Barracks. There is no reference to the closure of the Barracks in the definitive Breckland Council 2036 Local Plan subject to Public Examination hearings which ended on 21 September 2018
Tern Hill 2022	Clive Barracks.
Wethersfield 2020	Aerodrome site being transferred to HE in 2020. Resident 614 Volunteer Gliding School moving to former RAF Swanton Morley (see above) which is also closing in 2031.
Woodbridge 2027	Rock Barracks.
Wyton 2018	Aerodrome being sold off – DIO has a Land Sales Delivery Partnership Agreement with property developer Crest Nicholson and proposed a 4,500-home development on site. Due to road infrastructure issues, site deleted from Huntingdonshire District Council definitive 2036 Local Plan for mixed use development including housing.

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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 Core Strategy adopted by Rushcliffe Borough Council.
Old Sarum	Site owner's planning application for housing development and 10 additional hangars amongst other work, objected to by various parties as being detrimental to the site's heritage and potentially limiting use of the aerodrome. Appeal made by owner to the Planning Inspectorate for non-determination of the application by Wiltshire Council with public inquiry hearings starting on 9 October 2018. The Council subsequently rejected the planning application.
Panshanger	Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council definitive Local Plan provides for a realigned grass runway to the north of previous runway 11/29. Definitive Local Plan subject to Public Examination with specific hearings on the aerodrome taking place on 20 February and 27 June 2018. An outline planning application to re-open the aerodrome has been submitted and another party has submitted two separate applications to establish a replacement aerodrome at either Hatfield or Cromer Hyde.
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 Holdings, the site lease holder, have proposed a mixed use development although the definitive Plymouth City / South-West Devon Joint Local Plan retains the site for aviation. The definitive Joint Local Plan was submitted for Public Examination on 31 July 2017 with specific hearings on the aerodrome conducted in February 2018.
Redhill	Land owner and Thakeham Homes, a local housing developer, have proposed a 6,000 to 8,000 home Garden Village on the site and adjacent land. Tandridge District Council public consultation on four potential Garden Village sites including Redhill ended on 9 October 2017. Public consultation on the definitive 2033 Local Plan ended on 10 September 2018 and this has ruled out the site for a Garden Village and allocated it protected status as an Important Employment Site. The current draft 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.
Wellesbourne Mountford	Gladman Developments in conjunction with the site owner have proposed a development of 1,600 homes on the site although the Stratford-on-Avon District Council Local Plan adopted Core Strategy has earmarked Long Marston aerodrome (see page 1) as a preferred housing development site. A Core Strategy stated policy is to "Retain and support the enhancement of the established flying functions and aviation related facilities at Wellesbourne Airfield". Tenants notified by owner that flying activities would cease in December 2016 but action deferred pending tenant's legal action to obtain new leases. The Court judgement handed down on 25 June 2018 has ruled against the tenants who are expected to appeal the decision by the deadline of 16 October 2018. The Council have formally rescinded the owner's permitted development rights to prevent building demolition work and have initiated proceedings to negotiate an agreed purchase of the site or, failing that, to acquire the site by a CPO.
Wycombe Air Park	Site lease holder (Helicopter Aircraft Holdings Ltd) has agreed new leases with the land owner, Wycombe District Council. Definitive Local Plan submitted for Public Examination provides for an industrial / warehousing complex on south-eastern part of the site resulting in loss of a runway and relocation of gliding activities. Public Examination hearings started on 16 July 2018 and ended on 26 September 2018.