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Mr A Waters
Programme Officer
Medway Council
Gun Wharf
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22 March 2013

By Email

Dear Mr Waters

MEDWAY CORE STRATEGY EXAMINATION – RESPONSE ON BEHALF OF DEFENCE INFRASTRUCTURE ORGANISATION AND LAND SECURITIES

This submission is made on behalf of Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) and their Land Sale Delivery Partner, Land Securities, in accordance with the Inspector's invitation (by letter of 7th March 2013) to respond on the partial revocation of the South East Plan.

The Inspector has specifically invited representations on matters relating to the Core Strategy which participants consider will be affected by the partial revocation. The Government's intention to abolish Regional Strategies was initially signalled within the Conservative Green Paper: Open Source Planning in February 2010. This was subsequently provided for within the Localism Bill which was published in December 2011, and within S109 of the Localism Act, which received Royal Assent in November 2011. S109 of the Localism Act provides the legislative basis for the revocation of regional plans.

The abolition of regional plans has been widely publicised within the development industry for over three years. In our view, Medway Council's draft Core Strategy has been prepared and considered in full cognisance of this. The revocation of the South East Plan was anticipated to occur during the Core Strategy Examination process, and in this regard has been fully anticipated. In our view, the partial revocation that has now been confirmed will not affect matters relating to the Core Strategy considered and debated through the Examination process.

If, in response to representations made by other participants, the Inspector is minded to give this matter further consideration and considers that a further Hearing is needed, DIO and Land Securities respectfully request to be included within the discussions as active participants in the process.

Yours faithfully,



LIZ MASON
DIRECTOR