

Briefing Note

Our ref 64194/06/MS/OW
Date 10 November 2025
To Planning Inspectorate
From Oxford Aviation Services Limited

Subject **Deadline D7 – Closing Statement**

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This Statement has been prepared on behalf of Oxford Aviation Services Limited (“OASL”), the operators of London Oxford Airport (“the Airport”), in response to the application by Photovolt Development Partners (“PVDP”) for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Botley West Solar Farm project.

2.0 Thermal Plume and Radar Refraction

- 2.1 The Airport received a copy of the following reports on 17 October 2025:
- Botley West Solar Farm Oxford, UK – Thermal Impact (Nova Fluid Mechanics – 16/10/25)
 - Thermal Plume and Primary Radar Refraction (Pager Power – undated)
- 2.2 The submission of reports by the applicant follows a request by OASL, at a meeting on 21st May 2025, for the preparation of relevant studies concerning the possible impacts of thermal plumes on aviation safety. A scope of works for the studies was prepared by the applicant and agreed on 16th July 2025.
- 2.3 In view of the timeframes of the examination, the time required to procure and receive a peer review and the consequential absence of opportunity for peer review, Oxford Aviation Services Limited is unable to verify the findings of the technical studies, in so far as they might impact on aviation safety. Therefore, Oxford Aviation Services Limited cannot be confident of the conclusions reached by these reports produced by experts in these fields.

3.0 Bird Strike

- 3.1 As a result of the proposed development, the applicant maintains that there will be no increased risk of bird strike. However, as a precautionary measure the applicant has agreed to fund provision of an additional bird scaring unit at the Airport.
- 3.2 OASL are content to remove their previous objection to this matter, conditional on the funding of an additional bird scaring unit by the applicant.