

Manston Airport

Further to my recent submission yesterday I attach a further document received under an FOI request to the DCO confirming that the HRDF at Manston needs to be retained or moved to an alternative approved appropriate site. There is therefore no need to change the DCO obligation regarding the HRDF and therefore the requested change should be refused.

Sent from my iPad



Ministry of Defence

Air Policy Secretariat
Spitfire Block
Headquarters Air Command
Royal Air Force
High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire
HP14 4UE

1 July 2026

Ref. [REDACTED]

Mr Adem Mehmet

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Mehmet,

Thank you for your correspondence of 21 May 2026 in which you request the following information:

“During a recent Airspace Change Consultation, RiverOak apparently announced that the HRDF at Manston Airport was no longer used by the MoD and was therefore no longer required to be re-located as it was to be decommissioned.

Can you please advise if this is correct.”

We are treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and we can confirm that the Ministry of Defence (MOD) does hold information in scope of your request.

The MOD continues to require Ultra High Frequency (UHF) High-Resolution Direction-Finding (HRDF) capability in the Southeast to support flight safety. While there is some limited overlap from existing systems, these do not provide equivalent coverage or functionality. Accordingly, maintaining this capability, either through retention or appropriate replacement, remains necessary to ensure there is no degradation to safety or operational effectiveness.

If you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please contact this office in the first instance. If you wish to complain about the handling of your request, or the content of this response, you can request an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.gov.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review should be made within 40 working days of the date of this response.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may raise your complaint directly to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not normally investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Further details of the role and powers of the

Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website at <https://ico.org.uk/>.

Yours sincerely,

Air Policy Secretariat