Examination of New Forest District Council – Local Plan (Part 2)
Thursday 21 February 2013

Submitted on behalf of the Ministry of Defence by the Defence Infrastructure Organisation

Contact: Rob Sanderson, B.A. (Hons), Dip. T.P., M.R.T.P.I.
Tel: 0121 311 3852
E-mail: DIOOpsNorth-PTS3a@mod.uk
Response to Inspector’s Invitation to Submit Amended MAR7 Policy and Supporting Text

Suggested Policy

The development and intensification of Marchwood Military Port (as shown on Map MAR7) for marine and port-related uses will be encouraged, in accordance with Core Strategy Policy CS17 and policy DM12. Development proposals should:

- Retain or enhance the capacity of the existing wharfs and rail infrastructure;
- Seek to maximise use of the existing rail head;
- Have regard to potential visual impact;
- Mitigate any adverse impact on nearby sites of ecological importance.

Suggested Supporting Text

The National Policy Statement for Ports seeks to encourage sustainable port development to cater for the long-term forecast growth in volumes of imports and exports by sea. It recognises the important part that ports continue to play in local and regional economies.

The volume of cargo handled by Marchwood Military Port could grow significantly during the Plan period. While the intention of the MOD is that the site will remain as a Defence Sea Mounting Centre, it is likely that the site itself will be sold and that a future owner will seek to utilise spare operating capacity for commercial purposes or develop land surplus to MOD requirements for non-military purposes. The emerging Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan requires that existing wharfs and rail depots are safeguarded and that they be considered for minerals and waste use, if they become available or are released from their current use.

Maximising use of the existing rail head will help to ensure that development of the port is sustainable and will also help to mitigate any adverse impact on the surrounding highway network.

Marchwood Military Port includes McMullen Barracks, which provides accommodation for Service personnel working within the Port. In the event that McMullen Barracks is no longer required for Defence purposes, alternative uses must be compatible with the nearby residential area.

Defined Site Boundary

MOD believes that the Policy Map should show a defined boundary for the site, in order to avoid any uncertainty about the area to which the policy relates. The plan attached to this submission shows the full extent of Marchwood Military Port.