Cambridgeshire Horizons
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CAMBRIDGESHIRE HORIZONS

Agenda Item No: 10

Cambridge Airport Relocation Progress Report

To:	**Cambridgeshire Horizons Board**
Date:	**24 September 2009**
From:	**Chief Executive**
Purpose:	**To update Board members on progress with investigating options for relocation of Marshall Aerospace airfield operations to enable development of Cambridge East**
Recommendation:	**The Board is invited to:** **note progress and comment on the matters raised in the report and appendix**

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1. BACKGROUND

1.1 As reported to the Board in June 2009, Horizons, Marshall Aerospace, Local Authorities, Defence Estates and GO-East are working in partnership to consider alternative local options for the relocation of Cambridge Airport. A sub-group of the Cambridge East Delivery Board has been meeting to facilitate a process to help Marshall Aerospace to reach a decision in principle on relocation and inform the local authorities' view on the deliverability of Cambridge East.

1.2 This work is set against the backgound of the ongoing RSS Review process. EERA are currently undertaking a 12 week consultation on scenarios for housing and economic growth across the region for the period to 2031. The closing date for consultation responses is 24th November 2009. The County Council will respond to this consultation in coordination with other Cambridgeshire local authorities.

1.3 Defence Estates and Marshall Aerospace are working through initial Heads of Terms (prepared by Defence Estates) for potential relocation to either RAF Wyton or Waterbeach Barracks. Local Authority officers prepared assessments of the constraints and opportunities with relocation to these sites (reported to the Board in June 2009).

2. CONCLUSIONS TO DATE

2.1 The local authorities will work to the EERA consultation deadline for the RSS review and must work quickly to compile a response. Officers need to draft the final text for the response in advance of submission to allow members to agree and amend the response. Officers are broadly satisfied that a decision in principle from Marshall Aerospace on relocation from the existing Cambridge Airport site before the end of October will allow a view to be taken on the deliverability of Cambridge East in time to inform the response.

2.2 Marshall Aerospace has been asked for a statement of their progress towards a decision in principle and the sites being considered. This statement is attached at Appendix 1.

3. NEXT STEPS

3.1 The next steps are set out in the appendix. All parties are aware of the end of October deadline to allow the local authorities to prepare their response to the EERA RSS Review.