



Department  
for Transport

From the Parliamentary  
Under Secretary of State  
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Dear Resident,

**Department for Transport – Government Preparations for the End of the Transition Period with the European Union**

I am writing to inform you on the latest developments concerning the potential acquisition of land in the White Cliffs Business Park area in the Dover as part of the Government's preparations for the end of the Transition Period with the European Union (EU).

On 31 December 2020, the EU Transition Period will end and there will be a range of changes and opportunities for which business and the Government are already preparing to protect the free flow of freight at the borders as we make our new start at the end of the transition period.

The UK will no longer be part of the customs union or the single market as of 1 January 2021. As a responsible Government we are preparing for the changes this will bring with regards to exports and imports of goods. On 12 June 2020 the Government recognised the impact of coronavirus on businesses' ability to prepare, and as part of the wider UK border strategy, the Government has taken the decision to introduce the new border controls in three stages up until 1 July 2021.

The Government is seeking to create an additional Inland Border Facility (IBF) in Kent, and Dover provides a strategic location for this. The proposed IBF will seek to accommodate the new custom and border controls commencing from 1 July 2021. The site is proposed to act as a location for starting and ending the transit movement of goods to and from the UK; as well as a border control post, in bio secure purpose-built structures, to check the animals, animal products or high-risk food and feed of non-animal origin in a consignment from outside of the UK. The Department for Transport (DfT) does not expect to use this site as a temporary lorry holding facility.

We value your engagement, so please be assured that, before any use of a potential new Inland Border Facility by the Government at the end of Transition period, we will write to you again inviting your feedback on the detailed proposals for use of the site. We will also be conducting studies of the effects of the proposals on traffic and on the environment, and shall keep the local authority, Dover District Council, informed of our preparations.

Approval for the use of a new site would be sought under the requirements of a Special Development Order (SDO), The Town and Country Planning (Border Facilities and Infrastructure) (EU Exit) (England) Special Development Order 2020. As part of this process, my department would prepare a stakeholder engagement report recording the views of those who provide feedback.

Any further updates will be relayed as soon as possible.

Yours Sincerely,

**RACHEL MACLEAN**

**PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT**