



Date October 2021

Dear Resident, Owner, or Occupier,

## Dover Inland Border Facility

I am writing to you regarding the proposal to develop land at White Cliffs Business Park, Dover as an Inland Border Facility (IBF), to explain the latest plans for the now smaller proposed site, and to invite you to comment on the proposals during a period of local engagement which will run from 25th October 2021 – 8th November 2021.

Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) are now progressing plans as the sole occupier for the Dover IBF with Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and Department for Transport (DfT) no longer having a presence at this precise location. The site will carry out customs checks, including documentary and physical inspections of goods entering and leaving the country.

This site was identified through a cross-Government review of services we would need to provide for exports and imports after exiting the European Union. The Government committed to build inland facilities where there was no space for ports to expand. The Port of Dover does not have sufficient land to build the infrastructure required for the customs checks on imported and exported goods. The proposed location of the Dover IBF was identified as the most suitable site to support the Port of Dover due to its strategic location - it is just 3 miles away and is close to the A2. This new proposal is a much reduced (approx. a 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the original size) proposition from that originally planned.

The Dover IBF site will not be a strategic lorry holding facility / lorry park to support traffic management for the county of Kent. It will include parking areas for HGVs, vans and cars, while waiting to be processed for customs purposes, as well as security measures and facilities to enable the checking of vehicles and goods entering and exiting the site. The expectation is for vehicles to spend the minimum amount of time possible at the site and no more than 2 hours in most circumstances.

HMRC's proposed use of the site will require approval, which is being sought by the Government under the requirements of a Special Development Order (SDO). As part of the SDO submission, HMRC is preparing a stakeholder engagement report that will record the views of individuals and organisations that provide feedback.

The submission will be seeking a temporary approval (until 31 December 2025) as part of this HMRC, as the applicant, is required to demonstrate that there would be no significant or long-term environmental effects from the development. Any longer-term plans for the site will be subject to a further approval and public engagement.

Details of the proposals, including an information booklet for the Dover IBF site, can be viewed on our website at: [www.inlandborderfacilities.uk](http://www.inlandborderfacilities.uk), where feedback can be provided from 25th October 2021 – 8th November 2021.

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If you need extra support, for example if you have a disability, a mental health condition, or do not speak English/Welsh, go to [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) and search for 'get help from HMRC'.  
Text Relay service prefix number – 18001



I would encourage you to use the feedback form on the website, but hard copies of the information booklet and feedback form are also enclosed to this letter should you prefer. Feedback received during the community engagement period will help shape details of the planning submission, and I would therefore welcome your views on the proposals.

Even if you commented on the previous proposals in January/February 2021, this is a new smaller proposal, and as such we would be pleased to hear your comments on this proposal. Comments made previously will not be included in this engagement report.

Updates regarding the progress of the Dover IBF will be posted on the website.

Yours sincerely

**Yvette Greener**  
Deputy Director, Border Infrastructure Programme

[www.inlandborderfacilities.uk](http://www.inlandborderfacilities.uk)