



Meeting note

File reference

Status**Final****Author**

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Date

26.05.16

Meeting with

Heathrow Airport Ltd

Venue

Temple Quay House, Bristol

Attendees

Ian Frost - Head of Planning
Simon Earles - Planning & Policy Director
Jonathan Deegan - Head of Land Use & Enabling
Sheelagh MacGregor - Pinsent Masons

Susannah Guest - The Planning Inspectorate
David Price - The Planning Inspectorate
Callan Burchell - The Planning Inspectorate
Project update meeting (Heathrow Airport Ltd)

**Meeting
objectives****Circulation**

All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

The developer was reminded of the Planning Inspectorate's openness policy that any advice given will be recorded and published on the national infrastructure website under s51 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) (PA 2008) and that any advice given does not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) can rely.

Introductions were made by everyone present, and individual roles were explained.

The role of The Planning Inspectorate

The developer (Heathrow Airport Ltd) enquired about the Planning Inspectorate's role during the Pre-Application stage of the PA 2008 process and what level of engagement could be expected. The Inspectorate outlined its Pre-Application Service, noting in particular the '[Prospectus for Applicants](#)' document that is published on the National Infrastructure Planning website.

In summary, the Inspectorate outlined that they offer impartial s51 advice to developers and others throughout the Pre-Application stage. The advice can be related to a variety of matters such as procedure, planning matters, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). The Inspectorate

explained their role in sharing lessons learnt in a timely manner and acting as an independent facilitator if requested. The Inspectorate noted a specific element of the Pre-Application offer in respect of reviewing draft documents and noted the benefits of such a review in terms of highlighting any omissions or procedural risks for the acceptance or examination of any application. The Inspectorate outlined their evolving work in developing an EIA Evidence Plan approach.

The Inspectorate suggested that the level of engagement during Pre-Application will be determined by the developer's timescales and requests.

Project update

The developer provided an update on the proposed Heathrow Airport expansion scheme since the last meeting with the Planning Inspectorate in 2014. In summary, the developer highlighted that work has been progressing in preparing for a Development Consent Order (DCO) application and noted the publication of the Airports Commission Recommendation and the Government announcement that it would produce a relevant National Policy Statement for an application going through the PA 2008 regime. The developer outlined the wide scope and impacts of any potential application. The developer indicated that the approach to a consenting strategy was under discussion.

Timetable

The developer noted the Airports Commission Recommendation and anticipated a government response would be published before the end of the year. The developer noted that the response to the Airports Commission Recommendation would shape how the proposed scheme proceeds. The developer highlighted that they would continue to progress with their programme in the event of an announcement in favour of Heathrow; such an announcement would activate the formal DCO programme.

Engagement and consultation

The developer outlined their expectation of undertaking two rounds of formal consultation; the first round would be non-statutory and the second round would be statutory consultation; the latter would ideally be programmed after a National Policy Statement had been designated.

The developer outlined the current engagement activity in respect of the proposed scheme and explained in particular the role and membership of the Heathrow Strategic Planning Group. They noted the relevant local Boroughs alongside GLA, Transport for London, LEPs made up the membership of the group. The developer noted that the Group has 4 sub-committees covering: transport, economic development, spatial planning and environment.

Other matters

The developer outlined that the National Networks National Policy Statement could be applicable to the proposed airport scheme if it contained relevant elements. The developer hoped that there would not be conflict between National Policy Statements and that a clear hierarchy would be identified in the Aviation National Policy Statement.

The developer noted the possibility and considerations in respect of a s52/53 authorisation request.

The developer explained other process and policy considerations in respect of, for example, airspace change and CAA (Civil Aviation Authority) licencing and the roles and responsibilities of the different regimes in respect of, for example, night flights.