



# The Planning Inspectorate

## **The Planning Act 2008**

### **Application for Development Consent for London Luton Airport Expansion project**

**Case Ref: TR020001**

### **The Examining Authority's Note of an Unaccompanied Site Inspection**

#### **Background**

The Examining Authority ('the ExA') undertook an unaccompanied site inspection to support the examination of an application for development consent for the proposed London Luton Airport Expansion project ('the application') on **Friday 26 May 2023**.

The ExA carried out its unaccompanied site inspection from publicly accessible land (roads, footpaths and bridleways). No inspections were undertaken on private land, and advance permission to enter land was not required so these inspections could be undertaken on an unaccompanied basis.

The site inspection was undertaken at representative locations in order to consider the noise character of areas at distance from the airport that may experience aircraft noise (it is noted that noise conditions may vary due to a range of factors including weather conditions or time of day and that the site visit only represents a snapshot of prevailing conditions at the time of the visit).

#### **Particulars of the Site Visit**

The visit was undertaken by: Richard Hunt.

The visit was undertaken by car and on foot. Weather conditions were dry and included both cloudy and sunny intervals with temperatures between 13 and 16 degrees centigrade. Weather conditions were suitable to appreciate long range views. The airport was operating in easterly mode.

The inspections commenced at approximately 08:45 and finished at approximately 14:00. An overview of the locations visited is attached at Annex A and a route overview comprising three inset maps is provided in Annex B. During the site inspection the ExA used Flightradar24 to identify which planes were passing overhead at the various locations visited, where internet connectivity allowed.



## **Annex A: List of locations visited on Friday 26 May 2023**

**Map A.** The ExA commenced the site inspection by car on the B653 towards Harpenden and turned left onto the B652, right onto Common Lane, right onto Holly Lane and right onto **Sauncey Wood Lane** pausing in a field verge to observe the area noise character, including distant noise from both commercial and private aircraft and distant traffic noise.

The ExA returned to the B652 via Holly Lane and turned right to pass through Kimpton, continuing on the Kimpton Road and Heath Hill/ Heath Lane to enter Codicote. The ExA turned left onto the B656 and then right onto Bury Lane stopping at **Nup End** at the junction with Drivers End Lane to observe the noise character, which included distant aircraft noise and more dominant traffic background noise from the A1(M) to the east.

The ExA then proceeded on Park Lane to Knebworth, proceeding to Station Road and turning left onto the B197 Stevenage Road, left onto Old Knebworth Lane, stopping at **Knebworth Park Cricket Club** to observe noise, which was dominated by distant car noise. The ExA returned to the B197 and proceeded to Hertford Road, Roebuck Gate, Broadwater Crescent and the A602, turning left onto Gresley Way, right onto Lanterns Lane, Long Lane and pausing at Brookfield Farm car park on **Aston End Road** to observe that intermittent aircraft noise from flights originating from Luton and distant traffic noise was audible.

**Map B.** The ExA returned to Gresley Way turning left onto The White Way and **Beane Avenue and Beane Walk**. The noise character included traffic noise along Gresley Way and intermittent aircraft noise. The ExA returned to Gresley Way turning right onto Stevenage Road (B1037) to Walkern, continuing on the B1037 to Cromer Windmill, pausing to observe the noise character at **Cromer and Cromer Windmill** noting distant plane noise and intermittent rural traffic noise.

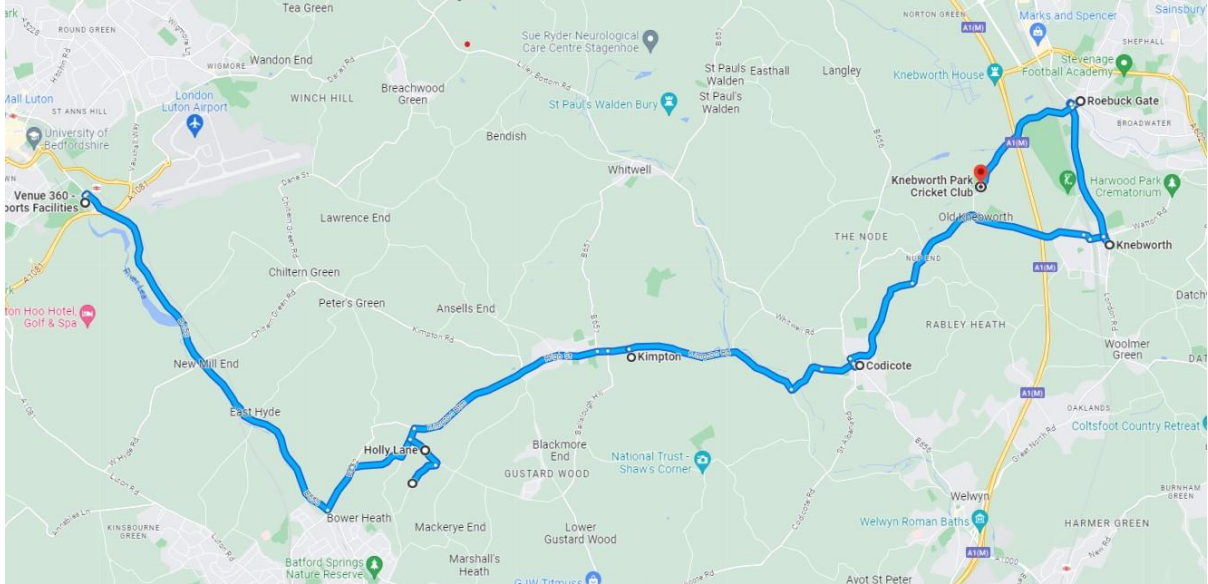
**Map C.** From Cromer the ExA travelled to the A505 via Cromer Heath and the A507, A1198, Gransden Road and Caxton Road to Great Gransden stopping at **St Bartholomew's Church in Great Gransden** to observe the noise character. No aircraft noise was observed at the time of the visit but the noise character was noted to be quiet. The ExA then travelled to **Cambourne** via the B1046, B1040, A428, A1198 and School Lane to the High Street pausing to observe the noise character, which comprised light traffic noise.



# The Planning Inspectorate

## Annex B: Maps of the routes taken on 26 May 2023

Map A

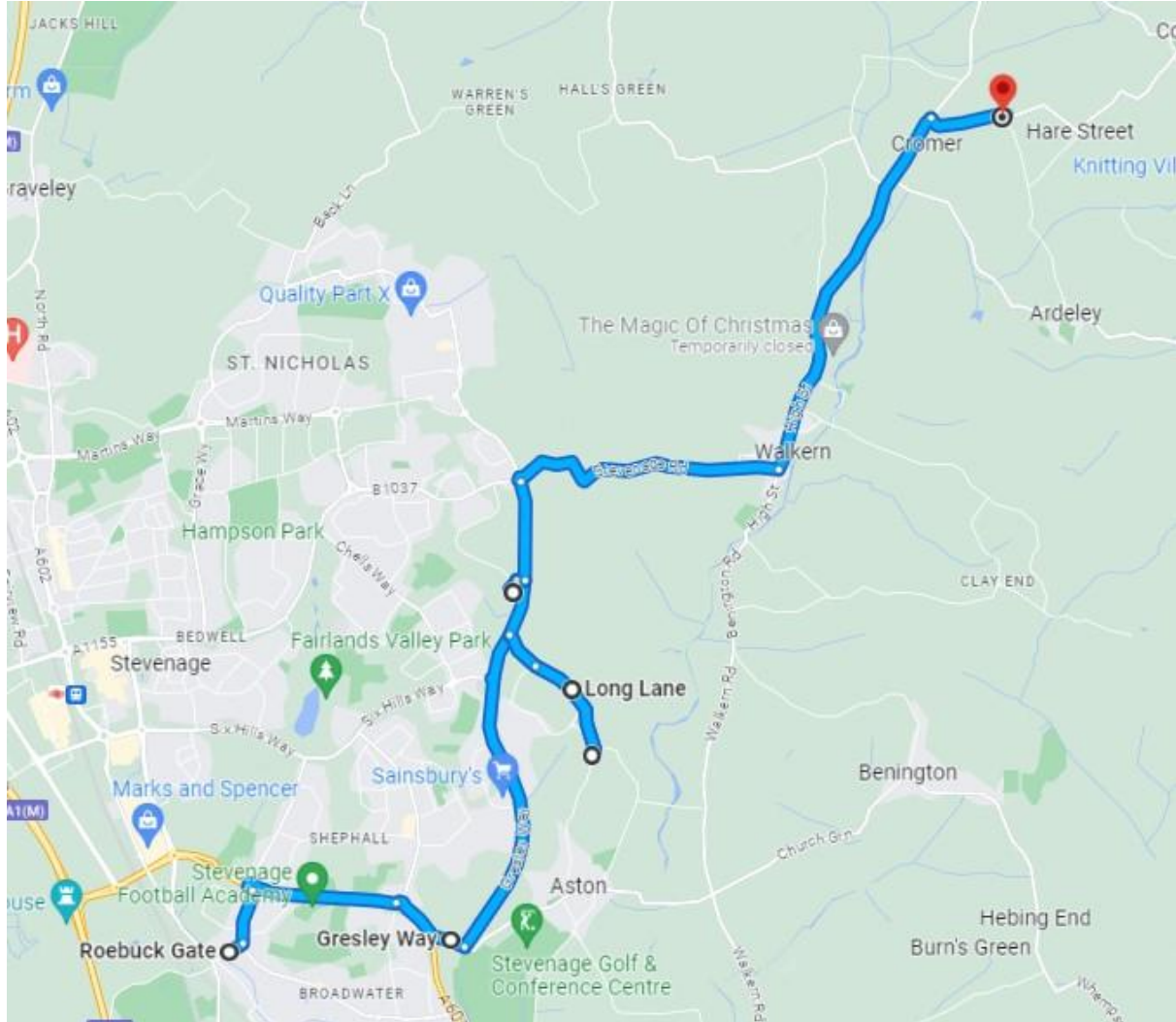


Map data ©2023 Google



# The Planning Inspectorate

Map B



Map data ©2023 Google



# The Planning Inspectorate

Map C

