

The Planning Inspectorate
Major Casework Directorate
Temple Quay House (2 The Square)
Temple Quay
Bristol
Avon
BS1 6PN

Our ref: NE/2024/136659/01-L01
Your ref: TR020001
Date: 23 January 2024

Dear Examining Authority,

Application by London Luton Airport Limited for an Order granting Development Consent for the proposed London Luton Airport Expansion Project: The Examining Authority's Request for further information and written comments – Rule 17.

Luton Airport, 2 Percival Way, Luton, LU2 9LY

The Examining Authority has requested that the EA provide a clear statement on its position regarding potential deterioration of WFD water bodies. If the EA is not satisfied that the Design Principles would ensure that there would not be deterioration of the water bodies, we have been asked to advise:

- Would compliance with the Drainage Design Statement [REP5-096] achieve this if secured via the draft DCO?
- Could additional wording be inserted into the draft DCO to ensure that there would not be deterioration of the water bodies? If so, please provide some suggested drafting.

Compliance with the Drainage Design Statement does not specifically ensure that there is no within class deterioration of the Water Framework Directive status. Therefore, we have requested that the Design Principle document is amended. Following engagement with the applicants on the Design Principles we have requested the following amendments to principle DDS.03. Should this amendment (in bold and underlined) be carried out, we are satisfied that this principle which also includes the requirement to carry out an updated WFD assessment would achieve the protections required:

DDS.03

The Water Framework Directive compliance assessment is to be updated based on the drainage detailed design and WFD status (at time of submission) and issued to the Environment Agency for review. **The updated WFD compliance assessment needs to demonstrate that the drainage design will not lead to deterioration (including within class deterioration) of the WFD status.**

Yours faithfully

George Lloyd: Planning Specialist – Green Growth and Delivery

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