Concerns regarding contradictory submissions relating to Wigmore Valley Park

FoWP have always been told that the replacement Wigmore Park would open before sections of the existing Wigmore Park was closed off, so allegedly increasing the park by at least 10%. This is confirmed in REP 4-071 London Luton Airport Expansion Development Consent Order Applicant's Response to Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 Actions 14-17: Wigmore Valley Park

5 OPENING OF REPLACEMENT SPACE LAND

5.1 Overview

5.1.1 In response to Action 17 of the Compulsory Action Hearing, the Applicant has considered where in the application documents it has secured its commitment to not commence works within WVP until the replacement land is open.

5.2 Code of Construction Practice

5.2.1 This matter is addressed in the Code of Construction Practice [APP-049] at paragraph 12.1.1 (e). The Applicant has amended the earlier text to make clear that works cannot commence within WVP until the replacement land is accessible to the public. The Applicant does not consider a separate definition of "open" necessary as accessible to the public is sufficiently clear.

The applicant now contradicts the above statement, as set out below, by stating it will take 3 years for the replacement park to open.

REP8-011 5.02 Appendix 4.1 Construction Method Statement and Programme Report.

4.3.6 The replacement open space would be developed in Assessment Phase 1 ahead of any earthworks taking place in Wigmore Valley Park. The replacement open space would retain the existing main entrance into Wigmore Valley Park, adjoining Wigmore Hall / Wigmore Pavilion, and would incorporate several of the enhanced facilities proposed in this area as part of Green Horizons (formerly known as New Century Park).

The applicant mentions earthworks but not other works.

Contained within the same document is Appendix B - Phasing diagram plans.

PDF Page 125 covers Phase 1-1 year 1 and shows 1 Site clearance –replacement open space, together with a compound and under 2. Car Parks P6 & P7 – site clearance and construct new surface car parks.

PDF Page 127 covers Phase 1-3 year 3 and only then does it show a replacement Wigmore Park.

We ask that the ExA insist that the new park fully opens first, as stated in the commitment made in REP4-071 by the applicant, if the DCO is approved. This is due to a substantial reduction in the size of the park for 3 years.