



Meeting note

Project name	Expansion of Heathrow Airport (Third Runway)
File reference	TR020003
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	6 June 2019
Meeting with	Heathrow Airport Limited
Venue	HAL offices, Heathrow, London
Meeting objectives	Project update meeting
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

Policy Update

The Applicant provided an update on the process currently running through the Court of Appeal in respect of the challenges against the Airports National Policy Statement.

The Applicant noted the current status of several policy documents including the evolving Aviation Policy Strategy, the recent hearings for the London Plan examination in public and the Hillingdon Local Plan.

The Inspectorate enquired about the progress of the Heathrow Strategic Planning Group (HSPG) on the Joint Evidence Base and Infrastructure Study (JEBIS). The Applicant indicated that the HSPG was working on scoping out and completing an update to the original JEBIS (2018) and hoped to have a revised version later in the year.

Statutory Consultation overview

The Applicant briefly summarised consultation activity to date noting that the Non-statutory consultation on Airspace and Future Operations undertaken in January 2019 had received almost 20,000 responses.

The Applicant explained that further work had been undertaken on the masterplanning approach and that the preferred masterplan was the basis of the imminent Statutory Consultation. The Applicant clarified that not all elements set out in the masterplan would be delivered through an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO), noting that there would be some replacement of displaced uses, enabling and early works taking place outside the PA2008 regime.

The Applicant set out how it had consulted on the draft Statement of Community Consultation noting that its interpretation of the Pre-application guidance¹ had led it to consult with more than the required relevant local authorities – “potentially affected authorities”.

The Applicant provided an overview of the material that would form part of its Statutory Consultation due to commence on 18 June 2019, explaining the nature of the documents and the relationships between them. In particular, the discussion focused on the Preliminary Environmental Information Report, the draft Code of Construction Practice and proposed approach in respect of Environmentally Managed Growth and its oversight by an Independent Scrutiny Panel. The Applicant discussed potential approaches to section 60 and section 61 Control of Pollution Act 1974 consents and the potential for a joint planning committee to discharge DCO requirements post consent. In respect of Environmentally Managed Growth, the Inspectorate asked how the approach to adaptive environmental management would work with Habitats Regulation Assessment requirements. The Applicant explained that there had been some reduction in the redline boundary extent and that the airport operational boundary was also slightly revised, but that the red line might need to change in response to mitigation requirements.

The Applicant provided a brief overview of the Community Compensation Fund, noting discussions with other parties, the relationship with the Airports National Policy Statement and noting the general content and questions contained in the respective consultation material.

Stakeholder engagement

Both parties acknowledged on-going engagement with the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). The Applicant noted regular steering group meetings across a range of topics and the Inspectorate advised it had met with CAA earlier in the year and discussed matters relating to airspace change process, economic regulation and the PA2008 process. It was agreed that a further tripartite meeting would be arranged later in the autumn.

The Applicant explained that engagement was continuing with HSPG and the Heathrow Community Engagement Board (HCEB), particularly in the run up to Statutory Consultation where the Applicant had sought advice from HCEB on questionnaire design.

The Applicant confirmed that it would comply with s46 of PA2008 and intended to send the required information to the Inspectorate on Monday 17 June. The Inspectorate explained the handling process upon receipt of a s46 notification.

The Applicant observed that several recent applications to the Inspectorate had been electronic-only submissions. The Inspectorate explained that a trial was currently underway to enable applicants to submit electronic-only applications on submission.

Future programme

It was agreed that a programme of future project update meetings would be scheduled between the Applicant and the Inspectorate; these meetings would potentially increase in regularity as the Applicant’s programme moves towards anticipated submission in mid-2020.

¹ [Planning Act 2008: guidance on the Pre-application process](#)