

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Gatwick Airport](#)
Cc: gatwickdco@westsussex.gov.uk
Subject: Gatwick Airport Northern Runway Project (Ref: TR020005): Response from WSCC to PD-005
Date: 15 September 2023 16:12:16
Attachments: [Gatwick Airport NRP Issues Trackers review - WSCC response.msg](#)

Dear Sir,

Gatwick Airport Northern Runway Project (Ref: TR020005)

Response from West Sussex County Council

Following publication of the ExA Section 89 letter ([PD-005](#)) to the Applicant and the Local Authorities on 8 September 2023, this correspondence provides comment on matters included in the Procedural Decisions made under Section 89(3).

Local Authority Issues Tracker

I attach a copy of the review of the Issues Trackers recently sent to the Applicant by West Sussex County Council (WSCC), which also includes the e-mail correspondence accompanying this document.

Given the extent of the DCO documentation, the majority of which was not seen by WSCC prior to acceptance, WSCC has not been able to review all the appropriate documents in advance of the Issues Tracker response deadline. Therefore, some of the issues raised by WSCC may now have been satisfactorily addressed within the DCO documentation. Furthermore, there will also be the addition of new issues which that will arise once WSCC have considered all the detail of the DCO documentation. Both of these elements will need to be reflected in the Issues Tracker moving forward.

As stated in previous correspondence to the Applicant, it is the view of WSCC that the Issues Tracker should be considered a living document through the examination process, and further iterations should be produced in tandem with revised drafts of the Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) and Principal Areas of Disagreement Summary Statements (PADSS).

Statements of Common Ground

A background to the engagement with the Applicant during the pre-application phase was given in the Joint Local Authority Adequacy of Consultation Representation (20 July 2023). This included the discussions to date on SoCG (paras 7.47 – 7.52), that only focused on the structure, scope of issues to be agreed (or not) and the process for the preparation of the documents. These discussions did not focus on any details of agreement (or not) on the issues of concern due to the lack of information available to the Authorities at that time. Furthermore, the comments made on the structure of the documents (within the required timeframes set by the Applicant) have not been discussed through the feedback meetings held, and there has been a lack of meaningful engagement or willingness on the Applicant's part to do so.

The capacity of WSCC to manage the current DCO workload is such that whilst it will be able to engage on agreeing a revised Issues Tracker (picking up the omissions raised with the Applicant prior to the deadline on 29 October 2023), WSCC will need to focus its resources on reviewing the DCO documentation and finalising its Relevant Representation and initial draft of the required PADSS.

It was therefore suggested to the Applicant that the most effective use of resources for all parties was to further engage on SoCG drafting once they have been able to review the comments already made on the tranches of SoCG as well as taking into account the Relevant Representations/PADSS produced by WSCC and any new issues that may have been identified.

Principal Areas of Disagreement Summary Statements

It is acknowledged that for both the Pre-examination and Examination stages, the ExA has made a Procedural Decision to request from each named local authority and statutory body, a PADSS. WSCC will produce the PADSS, in the format requested by the ExA, to be appended to the Relevant Representation.

As stated in the Joint Local Authority Adequacy of Consultation Representation (20 July 2023), WSCC maintains the view that adequate time should be allowed to address these matters, prior to the formal commencement of the Examination.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes

Amy

Amy Harrower

Gatwick NRP DCO – Project Officer for West Sussex County Council

