
Contact:
Sally Blomfield

Date: 19.09.23

By email
Jonathan.deegan@gatwickairport.com

Dear Jonathan,

Gatwick Airport NRP – Local Authority Issues Tracker – Mid Sussex District Council response

Following the circulation of the draft Issues Trackers on the 18 August 2023, I attach Mid Sussex District Councils response, including matters we raised during the pre-application consultations and engagement including the Topic Working Group sessions and other meetings which we believe have not been picked up in the draft Trackers (Attachment 1).

We also fully support the omission tracker issues raised by West Sussex County Council regarding Highways and Ecology and Nature Conservation.

On behalf of the joint Local Authorities, we also reattach (Attachment 2) the response made regarding the draft DCO documents circulated in May/June this year prior to submission. We request that the issues raised should also be included in the Issues Tracker and GAL provide a response on how the issues have been handled in the submission DCO documents.

For your information, we have forwarded our comments on the Issues Trackers to the ExA as requested in his Section 89 letter to GAL and the Local Authorities on the 8 September 2023.

We are aware that GAL intend to input the proposed omissions from the Local Authorities and present a revised version of the Trackers in a single table by the 25 September 2023. We would request that the revised table should allow for the identification of the source of the issue listed (by authority or authorities) and to allow a further column to enable commentary on where the issue has been reflected in the drafting of the Statements of Common Ground.

We also accept that there may be instances where issues are raised which may now have been dealt with in the DCO documentation. There may also be new issues which arise once we have considered the detail of the documentation which will need to be added to the Tracker. However, given the extent of documentation the majority of which has not been seen in advance by the local authorities, we have not been able to review all the appropriate documents in advance of the Issues Tracker response deadline.

We understand that GAL are suggesting that any new issues should be flagged with GAL ahead of the Relevant Representation submission to enable an early further iteration of the Issues Tracker and the compiling and discussion of Statements of Common ground. Unfortunately, due to the workload and

Working together for a better Mid Sussex

capacity of the local authority teams involved, this will not be possible. We will not be in a position to engage on Statement of Common Ground drafting until after the Relevant Representations have been submitted by 29 October 2023. The Authorities had made this clear in previous correspondence.

It is therefore understood that the jointly agreed Issues Tracker draft to be submitted to the ExA on the 29 October 2023 will only include omission issues identified by the Authorities in their response to the first version of the Issues Trackers circulated on 18 August 2023.

Mid Sussex District Council also suggest that the Issues Tracker should remain an active document through to the examination given its importance of cross referencing all the issues of concern through to the SoCGs and the PADSS. Therefore, we would request that the Issues Tracker, including any further issues identified in the preparation of the Relevant representation, is updated as the SoCGs are drafted to enable such cross referencing. We also suggest issues which have appeared on the Issues Tracker and subsequently been resolved remain on record, with a concise note on what resolution has been agreed and, where appropriate, signposting to the relevant document.

Should you have any queries about the issues raised, please contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Sally Blomfield
Assistant Director Planning and Sustainable Economy