



Gatwick Airport Northern Runway
National Infrastructure Project
TR020005

Written Representation - Summary

Interested Party Reference: 20044737

12th March 2024

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 A joint Local Impact Report (LIR) has been prepared by West Sussex County Council, Crawley Borough Council, Horsham District Council and Mid Sussex District Council. This written representation provides further detail on matters that are of specific importance to Mid Sussex District Council. It does not seek to repeat matters raised in the Joint LIR that are common to the four local authorities.
- 1.2 Mid Sussex District Council has a number of wide ranging concerns with the application submitted by Gatwick Airport Limited to bring the existing runway (northern) runway into routine use. In summary, the key concerns of Mid Sussex are:
- a) **Case for development and proposed mitigation** - Mid Sussex remains to be satisfied that the Applicant has presented a robust evidence base to justify the Application and to provide measures to mitigate the social, environmental and economic impacts of the Project.
 - b) **Increased overflight of Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (National Landscape)** - The Council is yet to be satisfied that there will not be more intensive use of flightpaths that are currently infrequently flown in particular route 9/WIZAD. This route is not currently frequently flown. Any intensification in its use will be noticeable and will cause harm to the special characteristics of the protected landscape i.e. the High Weald AONB. Therefore, the use of this route needs to be controlled.
 - c) **Traffic and Transport: Surface Access Commitments: Bus and Coach services** – Mid Sussex’s welcome the commitment in the Surface Access Commitment document (App-090) to provide ‘reasonable financial support for direct services from Crawley Down and Copthorne’. We welcome further discussion with the Applicant on this matter to ensure it secures meaningful mitigation.
 - d) **Traffic and Transport: Surface Access Commitments: Train Services** - It is understood that Network Rail are currently considering the implications of the Project on the rail network, and are reviewing the transport modelling undertaken by the Applicant. As a result of this Network Rail may seek contributions towards further rail investment, to manage the effect of Project on the rail network and to support mode shift. Mid Sussex is supportive of this further work to ensure impacts on the rail network are mitigated.
 - e) **Parking controls** - One of the unintended consequences of seeking to constrain the availability of onsite parking to achieve a shift to sustainable modes is that it may result in an increase in unauthorised off airport parking. This Council considers this is an issue the Applicant will need to mitigate. Mid Sussex notes that it is the Applicants intention to provide financial contributions to off-airport parking management but the contribution should, as a minimum, meet the cost of a full time Principal Enforcement officer to be shared across the joint local authorities.
 - f) **Private rented Sector – temporary accommodation** - Mid Sussex wants to ensure that the Applicant mitigates any additional pressure that the Project places on private rented housing sector. In the first instance the Applicants evidence suggests there will be direct impacts within Crawley but given the evidence in the Local Plans and Crawley Borough Councils declaration of a ‘Housing Emergency’, there will be impacts for Mid Sussex. The Applicant must ensure there is sufficient provision to enable these consequential impacts in Mid Sussex to be mitigated.

- g) **Affordable Housing** - It is clear that the Project will place additional pressure on affordable housing due to the types of jobs that the Project will generate and the correlated demands on the type of accommodation workers in those sectors will require, as evidence in (APP-201). Mid Sussex wants to ensure that the Applicant mitigates any additional pressure that the project places on the need for affordable housing through the provision of a Housing Fund.