

The Planning Inspectorate  
National Infrastructure Applications Team  
Temple Quay House  
Temple Quay  
Bristol  
BS1 6PN

FAO: Kevin Gleeson (Lead Member of the Examining Authority)  
13 May 2024

Dear Mr Gleeson,

**Application for a Development Consent Order by Gatwick Airport Limited for the Gatwick Airport Northern Runway Project (Ref. TR020005) – Deadline 1 Submission**

Thank you for your response to the notification of our intent to request a further change to the application. It was helpful to have your confirmation of compliance with Step 1 of the AN16 process and for your consideration that this is materially the same project with the proposed change. We will proceed with the consultation on potential Project Change 4 on the basis stated and keep the case team and the ExA informed of any change which may arise to the advised programme.

We also note your comment about being surprised to receive the change request and about prior indication that this alternative was under consideration being of benefit to the discussion at Issue Specific Hearing 7.

We hope that the information in our response to the ExA's written question WE.1.8 submitted on the 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024, clearly signalled to the ExA that we were considering alternative approaches to deal with foul water treatment which might include the submission of a change to the Application, and that we would notify the ExA at the earliest opportunity following the next round of hearings.

We were grateful that our response to WE1.8 was made available to all parties before ISH7 and indeed the issue of the potential change was then raised by CAGNE in the ISH7 Hearing, with the Applicant confirming to the ExA in that hearing (see page 15 of the transcript) that it was considering whether to propose this change but had not yet made a final decision. This was partly because further discussions were on-going with Thames Water (and the ExA will have heard Thames' submissions on this in the Hearing) and partly because we did not have the necessary Board approvals to promote the change at the time of ISH7.

We appreciate that making a change at this stage of the Examination needs careful consideration, and we did not make the decision to make this request lightly. The lateness of making this change



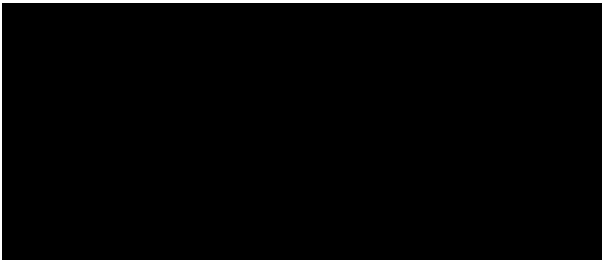
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has been driven entirely by the lack of pace with which discussions with Thames Water have been able to be progressed; we have noted already in WE.1.8 the timeline of our interactions with them. Despite this the Applicant had remained hopeful that matters could be successfully resolved with Thames Water without the need to make this change. But it has become clear that the results of studies being undertaken by Thames Water may not be available for some time and therefore in the absence of this the Applicant has no choice but to propose this change.

We are very mindful of the stage we have reached in the examination and are therefore progressing the change as quickly as possible, with the aim of ensuring that the ExA and all interested parties will have the opportunity to properly scrutinise the proposals if the ExA choose to accept them. If we are able to submit the change request before the 26 June 2024 then we will do so.

Yours sincerely,



**Jonathan Deegan**  
**NRP Programme Lead**  
**Gatwick Airport Limited**