

The Planning Inspectorate

27 August 2024

our ref: ESCC/GAL/NRP/DCO

Dear Sir/Madam

**Gatwick Northern Runway Project (Project Reference: TR020005)
East Sussex County Council Registration Identification Number: 20044514
Deadline [REP10-] Submission**

Please accept this letter as our response to Deadline 10 of Gatwick Airport's Northern Runway Project Development Consent Order Public Inquiry.

Firstly, I would like to thank the Examining Authority (ExA) for the opportunity to contribute to the Development Consent Order (DCO) process in relation to Gatwick Airport's Northern Runway Project (NRP).

We also wish to refer to our support of the Joint Local Authorities (JLA) submissions at Deadline 10 by Crawley Borough Council, specifically:

- response to the R17 request by the ExA for Interested Parties to comment on the recent SoS decision regarding London City Airport and its implications for the Gatwick NRP DCO, and
- York Aviation Review of D9 submissions

Whilst it is regrettable that the Applicant has been unwilling to commit to our request for a financial commitment towards providing bus service(s) between East Sussex and Gatwick Airport, we are pleased to note the inclusion of additional text in Commitment 5 (3)(b) in 5.2.2 of Appendix 5.4.1 Surface Access Commitments (SAC) Book 5 Version 6 submitted at Deadline 9.

This states that 'If GAL determines the services listed in paragraph (ii) above are in areas where there is significant trip-making but relatively low public transport mode share and are considered to be the optimum services to contribute to achieving the Mode share commitments, GAL must provide reasonable financial support to those services to sustain their operation and promote their use for a minimum of five years in accordance with Commitment 5.'

The inclusion of this additional text within the SAC provides reassurance that East Sussex County Council will be a potential candidate for a financial commitment from GAL towards improved public transport between the county and the airport. Our role on the Transport Forum Steering Group will help us to promote and provide evidence towards this.

Should you have any questions on the issues raised above please do not hesitate to contact localtransportplan@eastsussex.gov.uk

Yours sincerely



James Harris
Assistant Director Economy