



Meeting note

Project name	Gatwick Airport Northern Runway
File reference	TR020005
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	19 August 2021
Meeting with	Gatwick Airport Limited (the Applicant)
Venue	Microsoft Teams
Meeting objectives	Project update meeting
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

Forecast update

The Applicant indicated that current industry thoughts on post-COVID aviation demand were suggesting that air traffic movements will return to 2019 levels around the end of 2024/ 2025.

The Applicant outlined that the Northern Runway Project revised forecast was now for an opening year of 2029 and explained that the focus in preparing its Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) would be on a 'No Heathrow Third Runway' scenario; this being considered to provide a realistic 'worst case' assessment of the environmental effects of the project.

Update on stakeholder engagement

The Applicant stated that topic working groups had restarted in July 2021 and were anticipated to be held during the consultation period and beyond. The Applicant explained that engagement with key stakeholders was picking up pace. The Applicant was working closely with Highways England in respect of modelling and design options.

The Applicant outlined the ongoing programme of meetings with bodies such as Natural England, Environment Agency, Thames Water and Historic England.

Consultation approach

The Applicant outlined that it was intending to take a 'virtual first' approach to its upcoming statutory consultation. The Applicant outlined the use of the following methods: website to host all consultation documents, 50+ telephone surgeries, 31

mobile project office visits, 18 deposit points, special case arrangements, 32 webinars for key stakeholder groups, 25+ hard to reach group meetings. The Applicant confirmed the intention for a 12-week consultation period.

Assessment outputs for key topics and proposed mitigation

Socio-economics, Health

The Applicant estimated that about 3200 jobs will be created at Gatwick Airport as a result of the project. The Inspectorate queried if there had been any COVID-related impacts on jobs projections. The Applicant clarified that these figures are based on an assumption of return to pre-pandemic demand levels by 2025.

The Applicant explained that studies showed that new housing trajectories would suggest more than enough labour supply would be available in the Gatwick labour catchment area, and therefore no need for additional housing delivery would be created by the project itself.

Traffic & Transport

The Applicant outlined a map showing daily traffic flow difference between 'with' and 'without' the Northern Runway Project, explaining that the key differences were confined to a small number of routes and junctions. The Applicant detailed the proposed works at the South terminal roundabout, North terminal roundabout and the Longbridge roundabout.

Noise

The Applicant explained the approach to a noise envelope and its relationship to a Development Consent Order, the sensitivity testing being undertaken and the noise insulation scheme approach alongside other potential noise mitigation measures.

Water

The Applicant explained that it has progressed work on waste water and water supply, and was working to understand the impact of the scheme on flood risk.

Carbon

The Applicant emphasised it is in the process of developing a carbon and climate change action plan to support the airports plans to reduce carbon emissions and to deliver sustainable development. The plan will also respond to the outcome of the Jet Zero Consultation.