

Meeting note

File reference TR020001
Status Final

Author The Planning Inspectorate

Date 29 July 2020

Meeting with London Luton Airport Limited (the Applicant)

Venue Teleconference

Meeting Project update meeting

objectives

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.

The Applicant explained that since the previous meeting with the Inspectorate, a mid-project review had been undertaken, which has resulted in a number of changes to the Proposed Development. The vast majority of the Proposed Development remains the same; however, the key changes relate to the proposed phasing of the development, making better use of existing facilities, reduced earthworks and disturbance of the existing landfill, and the implementation of a 'Green Management Growth' (GMG) approach. The latter involves an increased level of commitment to environmentally conscious growth. The Applicant clarified that they intend to explain the changes in a cohesive manner through a further round of non-statutory consultation.

The Applicant explained its approach to the non-statutory consultation, which would focus on the changes to the Proposed Development and be a largely digital approach. The Applicant confirmed that it will also retain hard copies for accessibility.

The Applicant confirmed that it considered non-statutory consultation to be appropriate given the nature of the changes to the Proposed Development. The Applicant also considered that the 'worst case scenario' arising from the amended scheme has been captured in the Scoping Opinion adopted in May 2019 and there would be no new receptors or survey/ assessment methodologies arising from the proposed changes. Therefore, the Applicant does not intend to seek a further Scoping Opinion from the Inspectorate.

The Applicant provided an update with regards to the Environmental Statement (ES), confirming that following the design review updates drafting of the ES would continue, along with further stakeholder engagement. The Applicant has been consulting with relevant consultation bodies with regards to surveys and data collected in 2020.

The approach to the GMG strategy was outlined. The Applicant explained that potential environmental limits to be defined as part of the GMG strategy could include matters of noise, air quality, carbon and potentially surface access. The Inspectorate queried whether detail on the GMG strategy would be included in the non-statutory consultation and the Applicant confirmed this would be the case. The Inspectorate also advised that the Applicant consider for the DCO application the methods of securing and monitoring the threshold limits included in the GMG strategy, together with measures of enforcement where necessary. The Applicant confirmed that it has been developing this in detail and is looking at how the thresholds will be proactively managed. The Applicant compared its GMG strategy to the Rochdale Envelope approach, where it identifies the 'worst-case scenario', but with an additional layer of commitment to grow within those limits. It would therefore use triggers to catch issues before it would reach the threshold and mitigate accordingly.

The Inspectorate advised that it welcomes the submission of draft documentation prior to submission, together with regular update meetings with the Applicant.