

Manston Airport Project

PINS Reference TR020002

Applicant's response to the consultation on the non-material change to the Manston Airport Development Consent Order 2022

Document

Introduction

- 1 In August 2022, the Secretary of State for Transport made the Manston Airport Development Consent Order 2022 (the 'DCO') authorising the reopening and redevelopment of Manston Airport into a dedicated air freight facility able to handle at least 10,000 air cargo movements per year, whilst also offering passenger, executive travel, general aviation and aircraft engineering services (the 'Project').
- 2 Since the DCO came into force on 8 September 2022, the Applicant has been working to ensure the Project is delivered effectively and efficiently. As a result of this process, the Applicant applied for a non-material change to the DCO (the 'NMC').
- 3 The NMC comprises one change to the DCO:
 - (a) An amendment to Article 21, the time limit for exercise of authority to acquire land compulsorily from 'one' calendar year to 'five' calendar years.
- 4 The Planning Inspectorate invited representations on the NMC between 2nd April 2025 and 29th April 2025. This document sets out Applicant's comments on the representations received in response to this consultation.

General response to consultation responses

Overall view of submissions

- 5 In total four responses were published. One was opposed to the NMC, one was in favour of the NMC, one was not related to the NMC and one was unopposed.

Consultation responses from landowners

Thanet District Council

- 6 The Applicant notes Thanet District Council's concern that they were not consulted ahead of other consultees. The Applicant adhered to the legal requirements of publication and notification for an NMC as set out in Regulations 6 and 7 of the Infrastructure Planning (Changes to, and Revocation of, Development Consent Orders) Regulations 2011 as amended (the 2011 Regulations). Letters enclosing a copy of the application notice were sent to consultees by first class post on 19 March 2025, in accordance with Regulation 7(1) of the 2011 Regulations. A letter was sent to those parties who are still subject to compulsory acquisition powers in accordance with the list of consultees approved by the Secretary of State. The

Applicant thus did not treat Thanet District Council differently to the other parties who are subject to compulsory acquisition powers but did not notify it in advance.

- 7 The Applicant welcomes the confirmation from Thanet District Council that in relation to the proposed change to Article 21, the Council “*does not raise an objection to the application for a non-material change.*”

Andrew Appleby

- 8 Andrew Appleby wrote to express concern about the effect of the project on Spitfire Way, although he is listed in the Book of Reference. He did not mention the subject-matter of the NMC.

Consultation responses from other parties

- 9 Rodney Giddins wrote to say that he supports the application. He is not listed in the Book of Reference.
- 10 Gareth Inko wrote to oppose the application. He is not listed in the Book of Reference. His reason is that the Applicant should ‘get on and construct the airport’, so he appears to support the project overall. The Applicant is intending to get on and construct the airport.

Conclusion

- 11 In summary, the Applicant considers that the change made by the NMC is entirely appropriate. The consultee responses do not constitute significant, or any, resistance to what is proposed by the NMC and so the Applicant considers it should be made forthwith.