

## Expansion of Heathrow Airport (Third Runway)

### Section 51 Advice Log Version: 27 October 2025

There is a statutory duty under ['section 51 \(s51\) of the Planning Act 2008'](#) for The Planning Inspectorate to record the advice that it gives in relation to an application or potential application, and to make this publicly available.

This document comprises a record of the advice that has been provided by The Planning Inspectorate to the applicant (Heathrow Airport Limited) and their consultants during the pre-application stage. It will be updated by The Planning Inspectorate after every interaction with the applicant during which s51 has been provided. The applicant will always be given the opportunity to comment on The Planning Inspectorate's draft record of advice before it is published.

The applicant will use this advice log as the basis for demonstrating regard to s51 advice within the application.

Expansion of Heathrow Airport (Third Runway) s51 Advice Log - Index	
Date of meeting	Meeting overview
<a href="#">4 June 2025</a>	Project Update Meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scoping</li> </ul>
<a href="#">27 October 2025</a>	Update to Pre-application Prospectus

Project name - s51 Advice Library	
Topic	Meeting date: 4 June 2025
Use of scoping addendum to supplement the scoping report of 2018	<p>The applicant received a scoping opinion for the proposed development in 2018. Further design changes were made prior to a pause in project design in 2020. The applicant confirmed that it now intends to proceed with the application. It explained that the proposal has not changed significantly since the 2018 Scoping Report, although noted that the proposed draft Order Limits have been amended. The applicant confirmed that it intends to submit an addendum to the 2018 scoping report in July 2025 to reflect the revised proposals, current legislation, policy, guidance and assessment methodologies. The addendum would also be informed by engagement undertaken since the 2018 Scoping Report.</p> <p>The applicant highlighted that a scoping addendum approach was employed for the proposed Wylfa Newydd Nuclear Power Station. The Inspectorate agreed that an addendum to the scoping report is acceptable in principle, and that it had accepted such an approach previously for Wylfa Newydd, but noted that it had also advised against the approach elsewhere.</p> <p>The Inspectorate advised that when determining whether an addendum approach is suitable, the applicant should consider the scale and complexity of changes and the resultant volume of material. It advised that the larger the addendum, the higher the potential for confusion and queried whether a standalone scoping would be easier to understand. The applicant confirmed that in its view the changes since the 2018 scoping report are not sufficient to warrant a new standalone scoping report.</p> <p>The Inspectorate advised that if the applicant decides to implement an addendum based approach, then the combination of the original scoping report and opinion, and the scoping addendum should ensure that there is absolute clarity for the Inspectorate and consultation bodies regarding the changes to the proposed development, the scope of assessment and the basis for the proposed scope. It advised that if the scoping report addendum is difficult to understand or to read across with the previous scoping report and opinion, then it may not be able to agree to some matters.</p>

	<p>The Inspectorate advised that the addendum should reflect the structure of the original scoping report to provide consistency and make the information easy to access for all stakeholders. It advised that a summary table at the start of the scoping report addendum would be useful to identify the changes and how they affect certain aspects / matters. The addendum should clearly set out all relevant changes including but not limited to changes to the proposed development, the baseline (and future baseline taking into account projections), the legislative and policy context, relevant guidance, and case law. It should clearly set out which parts of the original scoping report remain valid and those which no longer apply. For each change identified, the addendum should clearly explain and justify whether this results in a change in the proposed scope, and what the proposed scope therefore is.</p> <p>The Inspectorate explained that the scoping opinion will generally focus on the areas of change, however the opinion may also address other matters depending on the information provided, the latest understanding of the project and any comments received from consultation bodies.</p>
Consultee List for Scoping	<p>The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (EIA) Regulations 2017 require the SoS to consult with bodies prescribed in the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) (APFP) Regulations. The APFP Regulations were amended in April 2024 by the Miscellaneous Provisions (MP) Regulations 2024. The transitional provisions state that the revised APFP Regulations do not apply to any proposed application for an order granting development consent where the applicant has started to consult under section 42 (s42) of the Planning Act 2008 before 30 April 2024.</p> <p>The applicant undertook statutory consultation under s42 between June and September 2019. The Inspectorate advised that for the purpose of preparing and adopting a scoping opinion, it would therefore identify statutory consultation bodies for the latest red line boundary applying the APFP Regulations <u>not</u> amended by the MP Regulations 2024. It noted that since the original scoping consultation body list was compiled, some of the bodies may have changed due to boundary changes or the abolition/ creation of new bodies. It also noted changes to the red line boundary</p>

	<p>or the likely effects of a revised proposal could result in the identification of new consultation bodies.</p> <p>The Inspectorate asked if the applicant intends to submit a Regulation 8 notification alongside the scoping report addendum. It explained that in the absence of a notification, the applicant would not be provided with a Regulation 11 list of consultation bodies with contact details, although confirmed that the consultation bodies names would be identified in the scoping opinion. The applicant confirmed it would inform the Inspectorate of its decision in due course.</p>
<b>Topic</b>	<b>Update to Pre-application Prospectus</b>
Update to Pre-application Prospectus	<p><b>IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT UPDATES TO OUR PRE-APPLICATION SERVICES</b></p> <p>Following a 6-month review of our services, our Pre-application Prospectus has been updated: <a href="#">2024 Pre-application Prospectus</a>. The update log at the bottom of the page summarises the changes and clarifications that have been applied.</p> <p>As an applicant with a live project at the pre-application stage of the process, please familiarise yourself with the update and consider how it might affect your pre-application programme and interaction with our services.</p> <p>Please note in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the establishment of land and rights negotiations tracking as a primary service feature – this means it is now expected for <b>all applicants</b> to develop and share a land and right negotiations tracker in 1 of 2 available templates, irrespective of the service tier they have subscribed to</li> <li>clarified expectations of applicants when preparing to interact with the Inspectorate at meetings – including clarified rights for the Inspectorate to delay or refuse service where pre-meeting expectations are not upheld e.g. an updated programme document or issues tracker is not provided, on time, to inform a meeting agenda.</li> </ul>