

Our ref: 20044834

Your ref: TR020005

Secretary of State for Transport Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit **Great Minster House** 33 Horseferry Road London SW1P 4DR

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Via E-Mail to:

Head Third Party Infrastructure **National Highways** The Cube 199 Wharfside Street Birmingham **B1 1RN**

06 June 2025

Dear Secretary of State,

GATWICK NORTHERN RUNWAY PROJECT – APPLICANT'S SUBMISSION OF **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OF 24 APRIL 2025**

National Highways welcomes the Secretary of State's request for comments on the Applicant's Submission of Additional Information of 24 April 2025, which was issued on the 28 April 2025.

Response to Secretary of State Consultation 3: Annex 3 – Applicant's Alternative Proposed Requirement 20 (Surface Access)

National Highways has signed a Framework Agreement with the Applicant which is considered to suitably protect the operation of the Strategic Road Network (SRN) during the operational phase of the authorised development, including the period of construction of the highway works. The proposed changes suggested in the Applicant's Alternative Proposed Requirement 20 (Surface Access) in Appendix 2 to Annex 3 further reinforce the protection of the SRN during the initial phases of the project.

The highway mitigation measures were designed based on the Proposed Development scenario for the design year of 2047, 15 years after the highway works are assumed to be complete and as set out in the Transport Assessment. Mitigation was not based on the future baseline traffic scenario without the development in place and the effects created by the difference in traffic levels between a future baseline and a Proposed Development scenario therefore do not have a bearing in the design of mitigation for the SRN. This approach ensures that the SRN is adequately prepared for projected traffic levels, addressing any potential concerns.



The Applicant's suggested wording to Requirement 20 offers additional reassurance to National Highways beyond the protections secured between the Surface Access Commitments and the Framework Agreement signed between both parties, which were previously considered sufficient to enable National Highways to withdraw its representations on this point.

National Highways Position on Indemnity

National Highways welcomes the conclusion outlined in Section 21.7.15 of the Examining Authority's Recommendation Report, that the requested bond and uncapped indemnity for National Highways is necessary. National Highways therefore requests that the Secretary of State adopts this approach and includes the wording suggested by National Highways and recommended by the Examining Authority to ensure the appropriate use of public funds.

Yours Sincerely,



Head of Third Party Infrastructure