

Roger Elkins

Cabinet Member for Highways and
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Mr Andrew Barrett-Miles
Chairman
Environment, Community & Fire Select Committee

3 January 2019

Dear Mr Barrett-Miles

**Environment, Communities and Fire Select Committee – Consultation
Response to Gatwick Airport Draft Masterplan 2018**

At its meeting on 6 December 2018, the Committee:

- 1) Supported a neutral but firm response on the Gatwick Masterplan, to include a 1 page summary of the County Council's position and areas of concern as an appendix.
- 2) With specific regard to the Safeguarded Additional Runway scenario, raised concerns but remained neutral, recognising it was a government decision.
- 3) Supported pursuing a new legal agreement with GAL to prevent construction of a new runway to the South of the airport, to be brought back to the Committee when a position is determined.

I would like to thank the Select Committee for its consideration of the suggested response to the consultation on the draft new Gatwick Master Plan.

I note that the Committee supported a neutral but firm response to the consultation. As was discussed by the Committee and debated by Full Council on 14 December 2018, I agree that the County Council should neither support nor object to the Existing Standby Runway Scenario but reserve its position at this stage given the lack of detail about the potential impacts and mitigation.

The Committee also discussed the Safeguarded Additional Runway to the South Scenario and it was also debated on 14 December 2018. On this matter, I also agree with both the Select Committee and Full Council that this authority should neither support nor object but reserve its position at this stage.

I do consider that there are some aspects of the draft Master Plan that can be supported by the County Council at this stage, one of which is GAL's plan for the next five years subject to the necessary supporting infrastructure being put in place. Also, I consider that the County Council can support, in principle, the Existing Main Runway Scenario for the period 2018-2032, subject to GAL identifying and funding the infrastructure that is required to support its delivery.

I welcome the Committee's support for the County Council seeking to enter into a new legal agreement with GAL that prevents the construction of an additional

operational runway to the south for a minimum of 15 years. As requested, I will update the Committee 'as and when' progress has been made on this matter.

Lastly, I note and agree with the recommendation that there should be a one page summary of the County Council's position with areas of concern as an appendix.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Elkins', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Roger Elkins
Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure