



## **Strategic Transport Forum**

27<sup>th</sup> September 2019

### **Agenda Item Number 4: Heathrow Airport Expansion**

*Recommendation:*

**It is recommended that the meeting:**

**a) Agrees the proposed response to Heathrow Airport Expansion Consultation**

#### **1. Heathrow Airport Expansion Proposals**

- 1.1. In June 2018, following a vote in Parliament the Secretary of State designated an Airports National Policy Statement (ANPS), which paved the way for new capacity at Heathrow Airport.
- 1.2. Following an application for development consent and a public examination by the independent Planning Inspectorate, this could see building work start in 2021 and a third runway operational by 2026.
- 1.3. The Future of Aviation Strategy suggests the development of a third runway at Heathrow could deliver up to £74 billion worth of benefits to passengers and the wider economy by lifting the existing runway cap of 480,000 flights per year to 740,000.
- 1.4. On 18<sup>th</sup> June 2019, Heathrow Airport launched its consultation into the Heathrow Airport Expansion proposals. The consultation ran until 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019.
- 1.5. The consultation sought views on the future layout of an expanded Heathrow airport, including the new runway and other airport infrastructure such as terminals and road access. The consultation also considered plans to manage the environmental impacts of expansion, including a proposed Heathrow Ultra Low Emissions Zone, Heathrow Vehicle Access Charge and a proposed 6.5-hour ban on scheduled night flights.
- 1.6. England's Economic Heartland recognises the role aviation plays in meeting the needs of both passengers and freight, in a global outward-looking Britain that relies on trade links with the rest of the world.
- 1.7. The EEH Freight Study signifies the importance of Heathrow to this region, handling 65% of all UK air freight and close to the EEH boundary. Air freight services to the UK is particularly important to the pharmaceuticals, computer, and electronic and entertainment industries, sectors that are well represented in the Heartland.
- 1.8. England's Economic Heartland is seeking an extension to the consultation window to ensure the principles of its response can be ratified by the Strategic Transport Forum, owing to the way the dates of the Strategic Transport Forum have fallen outside of the consultation window.
- 1.9. A copy of the proposed response is included within Annex 1.

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**Project Lead**

**September 2019**



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