

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

David Brazier - Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport

DECISION NO:

13/00025

For publication

Subject:

Facing the Aviation Challenge - Kent County Council's Discussion Document on Aviation

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, I agree to adopt Kent County Council's discussion document on aviation in 'Facing the Aviation Challenge' (July 2014).

Reason(s) for decision:

Following the publication of the Airports Commission's interim report in December 2013, a new airport on the Isle of Grain could be added to the shortlist of potential long term options that could be recommended to Government in its final report in summer 2015. The Airports Commission will make this decision in September 2014, following feasibility studies conducted by the Commission. If shortlisted, there would be a national public consultation (anticipated in early 2015). KCC should reaffirm its support for expansion of existing airports and opposition to a new airport in the Thames Estuary through a new discussion document on aviation in 'Facing the Aviation Challenge' (July 2014).

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

On 22nd July 2014 the Environment & Transport Cabinet Committee endorsed the adoption of Kent County Council's 'Facing the Aviation Challenge (July 2014)' discussion document by the Cabinet Member for Environment & Transport.

During the Cabinet Committee discussion it was proposed that Section 3.4 'Better utilisation of existing airports' should be amended as follows:

*Following its closure as a commercial airport in May 2014, a financially viable and sustainable future must be found for Manston airport. This should focus on the use of the site for aviation and related services as well as other businesses that can bring jobs and economic growth to East Kent.**

* words underlined have been inserted/changed.

The above was agreed and has been incorporated in the discussion document.

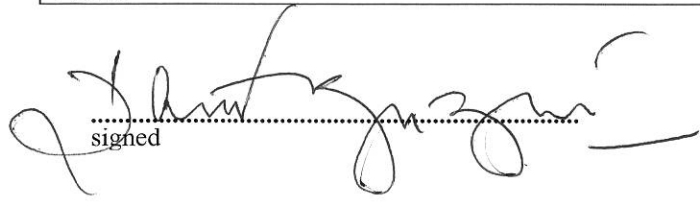
Any alternatives considered:

Retention of the original 'Bold Steps for Aviation' discussion document (May 2012, with revisions July 2012) as Kent County Council's view on aviation. However, this document is not fit for purpose as it is out of date given the remit of the Airports Commission which was set up in December 2012, after this original discussion document was written; and the views of Members, the public and expert analysis has shaped Kent County Council's view on aviation since the publication of

of 'Bold Steps for Aviation', which has informed this new discussion document.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

None


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signed

4.8.14
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date