

**AIRPORT POLICY TASK GROUP held at the COUNCIL OFFICES
LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN at 9.00 am on 2 NOVEMBER 2007**

Present:- Councillor A J Ketteridge – Chairman
Councillors J F Cheetham, E J Godwin and P A Wilcock

Officers in attendance:- A Bovaird, R Harborough, J Mitchell, M Perry and
M Purkiss.

AP29 APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K R Artus, S Barker, C Cant, and A Dean.

Councillor J F Cheetham declared a personal interest as a member of SSE, NWEHPA, the National Trust and the Hatfield Forest Management Committee and Councillor Godwin declared a personal interest as member of SSE. Councillor Wilcock clarified that he was not a member of SSE.

AP30 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 31 August 2007 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

AP31 BUSINESS ARISING

In relation to the planning application for Runway 2 it was reported that there was still some doubt as to when this would be submitted. However, it was unlikely to be until the New Year.

AP32 G1 UPDATE AND IMPLICATIONS OF APPLICATION FOR AWARD OF COSTS BY BAA

The Director of Development reported that prior to the conclusion of the Public Inquiry, BAA had made an application for an award of partial costs against this Council and Essex and Hertfordshire County Councils. The Council had two weeks to respond to the application for costs and the Director confirmed that the Council would vigorously rebut the costs application. It was considered that the Council had a proper response to the costs application which would be determined by the Secretary of State separately from determination of the planning appeal itself.

In response to questions from Members, officers confirmed that the Inspector would make recommendations to the Secretary of State on the issue of costs and advised against lobbying the Secretary of State or responding to newspaper articles at this stage.

AP33 COST OF G1 INQUIRY

The Head of Planning and Housing Strategy circulated a report setting out the likely total cost to the local authorities of the G1 Inquiry. The cost would be shared amongst the three authorities with East Hertfordshire District Council also making a contribution. There were some specific costs which would be entirely the responsibility of Uttlesford and the County Councils would be covering the costs of the surface access aspects.

AP34 PREPARING FOR G2 APPLICATION

It was anticipated that after the planning application and other associated applications had been submitted to the Council and orders had been submitted to the relevant partners, the Government would call in the proposals and arrange a Public Inquiry.

Members considered the options for dealing with the process and agreed that, in the first instance, a meeting of the four authorities should be convened to discuss the way forward and the possible involvement of other local authorities and to investigate the potential of a common approach with other organisations which were opposed to a second runway.

AP35 NEED FOR THE TASK GROUP

Members discussed the need to continue with this Task Group and the Stansted Airport Advisory Panel. It was noted that it was, for the most part, the same meeting being held twice and it seemed logical to amalgamate the groups in the interest of efficiency and economy.

It was considered that most relevant Airport matters should be discussed by the Stansted Airport Advisory Panel and any urgent matters which required decision should be discussed with senior Members of the Council.

It was agreed that a report would be submitted to the meeting of the Council on 11 December 2007 to recommend that the above action be taken.

The meeting ended at 10.10 am.