

Committee: COUNCIL
Date: December 11, 2007
Title: FUTURE OF STAAP/AIRPORT
POLICYTASK GROUP
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Agenda Item

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Item for
decision

Summary

At its November meeting, the Airport Policy Task Group reached the view that there was no need to continue with both the Stansted Airport Advisory Panel (STAAP) and the Airport Policy Task Group and that a report to this effect should be made to the council.

Recommendations

1. That the Airport Policy Task Group be wound up.
2. That the terms of reference of STAAP be broadened to include the remit of the APTG.
3. That in matters of urgency, the current practice of officers taking action following consultation with group leaders and the relevant chairmen (including the chairman of STAAP) be continued.

Background Papers

Minutes of the APTG

Minutes of Annual Council meeting, May 2007

Impact

Communication/Consultation	The issue relates to the internal working of the council and the relevant members will have participated in the decision.
Community Safety	None
Equalities	None
Finance	None
Human Rights	None
Legal implications	None
Ward-specific impacts	None
Workforce/Workplace	Fewer meetings will reduce the workload of key individuals within – especially – the Development Department.

Situation

1. The issue of the duplication that exists between the work of the Airport Policy Task Group and the Stansted Airport Advisory Panel was discussed by the APTG at its meeting of November 2.
2. The relevant minute (AP35) reads:

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.
3. This report brings forward the view of the Task Group for the council to consider.
4. The current remit of the Airport Policy Task Group is: "*Steering the development of Council policy in relation to the airport and aviation as a whole*"
5. In comparison, the terms of reference of STAAP are:

Development of council policy in relation to the airport;

Monitoring the activities of the airport in the interests of the people of the district

Monitoring the implementation of Section 106 agreements and related undertakings by BAA and others;

Reviewing and anticipating future developments at the airport and in aviation policy
6. In practice, there is significant overlap between the discussions which take place at the two groups and it is the view of officers that nothing would be lost by the APTG's abolition. The current remit of the APTG should be added to the terms of reference of STAAP.
7. STAAP should continue with its existing membership and its current cycle of meetings.