

G1 Inquiry costs

Stansted Airport Advisory Panel, Item 7

Committee: Stansted Airport Advisory Panel

Date: 25 March 2008

Title: **G1 Inquiry costs**

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Agenda Item

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Item for information

Summary

This report responds to the Panel's request for a report on the resource implications of the G1 Inquiry and the likelihood of contributions from other authorities.

Recommendations

None

Background Papers

None

Impact

Communication/Consultation	
Community Safety	
Equalities	
Finance	No contingency reserve exists to fund any award of costs to BAA
Human Rights	
Legal implications	
Sustainability	
Ward-specific impacts	
Workforce/Workplace	

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Situation

- 1 The Council has incurred the following costs in respect of the G1 proposals since January 2007. This period broadly covers the preparation for the Inquiry and the Inquiry itself. These sum to £436,038.50.

Legal Fees	£306,210	Advocacy, advice in conference, studying documents and proofs, preparation of cross examination
Expert technical advice	£68,497	Air quality, Noise, Quality of Life assessment techniques and policy
Environmental studies	£10,743	Air quality monitoring
General inquiry costs	£50,858.50	This includes salary costs of the programme officer, office accommodation for the inquiry programme office, office accommodation at the inquiry for the inquiry team, photocopying, and catering.

- 2 The agreed contributions from other authorities for this period total £211,975.50. The net cost to this Council was therefore £224,063.
- 3 The Secretaries of State are not now expected to issue the G1 decision and the separate decision on BAA's claim for costs until the end of April. If BAA's claim were successful, the amount would then need to be negotiated between the Councils and BAA. Part of the claim was made against Essex and Hertfordshire county Councils relating to their surface access evidence.

Risk Analysis

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
BAA's claim for costs is successful	1	3	UDC has robustly defended the claim at the Inquiry.
The Council is unable to afford to pay to BAA an award of substantial costs	4 No contingency reserve exists	3 Very significant budget adjustments would need to be made	Negotiate with BAA, including extended period for settlement of any substantial sum