

## **PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE LONDON SOUTHEND AND ENVIRONS JOINT AREA ACTION PLAN**

### **1 SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report proposes a number of modifications to the London Southend Airport & Environs Joint Area Action Plan (JAAP) following a public examination of the plan and receipt of an interim report from the Inspector on 20 May 2014.

### **2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 The JAAP was submitted to the Government for independent examination on 17 December 2013. The document has been prepared jointly by Rochford and Southend Councils to respond to the challenges and opportunities offered by London Southend Airport and its surrounding area.
- 2.2 A public examination took place in April/May and following the last session on 7 May the Inspector wrote to the Councils with his interim view on the overall soundness of the JAAP and whether any adjustments or modifications were required to enable the plan to be finalised for adoption. A copy of the Inspector's letter is attached to this report as appendix 1.

### **3 PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS**

- 3.1 Both Councils have now carefully considered the Inspector's findings and prepared a schedule of proposed modifications to the JAAP policies. The schedule is attached to this report as appendix 2.
- 3.2 In the main, the changes are a straightforward, practical response to issues raised by the Inspector, together with other matters required to ensure the plan when finalised is fully up to date.
- 3.3 Attention is drawn to paragraph 6 of the Inspector's letter where he concludes that preclusion of right turns into Cherry Orchard Way cannot be justified based on technical evidence. That being the case, an amendment to policy T2 is proposed to seek to discourage, but not preclude right-turns; the specific design of the junction and measures to discourage right-turns can be considered through the preparation of the development brief for the business park.
- 3.4 For the moment any consequential modifications or amendments to the implementation section of the plan have not been finalised. However, any such changes are not policy based and simply arise from the need to reconcile the changes proposed in the modifications schedule.
- 3.5 It is proposed that any required changes to the implementation section be finalised prior to the final round of public consultation as set out below. That being the case, it is suggested that such changes are delegated to the Head

of Planning and Transportation to agree, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning.

- 3.6 Finally, several changes are also required to the Proposals Map (appendix 3) as follows:-

- Junction and road access moved slightly south to be wholly within Area 2.
- Road access shortened to reflect the extent of east/west alignment before turning southwards (could show more?).
- Flood zones added back and note added at foot of legend with date.
- Area 2 now cross hatched to show B1 and B2 use.

#### **4 NEXT STEPS**

- 4.1 Once the modifications to the plan are agreed these will be sent to the inspector prior to a further period of public consultation.
- 4.2 It is anticipated that public consultation on the modifications will run through July and August for a period of 8 weeks. This is a longer period than required to allow for holidays.
- 4.3 Following consultation the modifications and any representations will be submitted to the Inspector and will be taken into account when finalising his report.

#### **5 RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 It is important to carefully consider modifications to the JAAP in light of the Inspector's interim views to ensure the final plan is sound and can be adopted.

#### **6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The arrangements for carrying out further consultation on modifications can be met from existing budgets.

#### **7 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The procedures for progressing a development plan to adoption are set out in the relevant planning regulations.

#### **8 RECOMMENDATION**

- 8.1 It is proposed that Council **RESOLVES**

- (1) To approve the proposed policy modifications to the JAAP document and amendments to the Proposals Map.

- (2) To delegate approval of any required changes to the implementation section of the plan to the Head of Planning & Transportation, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning.
- (3) To carry out public consultation on the proposed modifications prior to submitting these to the Inspector for consideration in the preparation of his final report.



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**Background Papers:-**

None.

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