

Cabinet

12 December 2017



Title	Spelthorne's response to the revised 'draft Airports National Policy Statement: New Runway Capacity and Infrastructure at Airports in the South East of England.		
Purpose of the report	To make a decision		
Report Author	Tracey Willmott-French		
Cabinet Member	Councillor Colin Barnard	Confidential	No.
Corporate Priority	Economic Development Clean and Safe Environment		
Recommendations	Cabinet is recommended to: Agree Spelthorne Borough Council's response (at Appendix 1) to the revised draft Airports National Policy Statement		
Reason for Recommendation	The Council supports the expansion of Heathrow subject to noise, air quality and transport issues being resolved. It is therefore important to respond to these consultation documents as they will influence the way in which detailed proposals for expansion are assessed.		

1. Key issues

- 1.1 The **draft Airports National Policy Statement (NPS)** was published in February 2017 for consultation. Its purpose was to provide the basis against which a formal proposal for the provision of a new northwest runway at Heathrow will be assessed.
- 1.2 In response to the consultation, the Government has revised its approach as to how it will support the modernisation of airspace. Part of this includes giving the Secretary of State for Transport new call-in powers to give high level direction for nationally significant airspace change decisions.
- 1.3 The Government will be introducing new metrics for the assessment of noise impacts and their health effects, including a new measure of frequency. They will also be setting up an Independent Commission on Civil Aviation Noise (ICCAN); its purpose will be to ensure that the noise impacts of airspace change are properly considered and a balance is achieved in noise management around expansion and airspace modernisation.
- 1.4 In consideration of the responses received from the February consultation the draft Airports NPS has been updated. This also reflects changes in its evidence base associated with (a) airport capacity and passenger demand, (b) the

publication of the 2017 UK Air Quality Plan, and (c) other broader government policy changes.

- 1.5 The Government is inviting comment on the revised draft Airport NPS. The consultation does not ask for views on the detailed design of the scheme or any associated infrastructure; this will come later when the scheme promoter holds its own consultation.
- 1.6 The Council has stated its support for the expansion of Heathrow, however it has also stated that this is subject to the successful resolution of impacts of noise, air quality and transport associated with the expansion.
- 2. Options analysis and proposal**
 - 2.1 It is important that the Council respond to these consultation documents as they will influence the way in which detailed proposals for expansion are assessed.
 - 2.2 The draft response is set out in **Appendix 1** and is considered the most appropriate. The only other option would be 'no response' which would not be in the best interests of Spelthorne's residents and businesses.
- 3. Financial implications**
 - 3.1 There are none for Spelthorne in relation to these documents.
- 4. Other considerations**
 - 4.1 None.
- 5. Timetable for implementation**
 - 5.1 A response is required to be submitted by the 19 December 2017.

Background papers:

1. Consultation on the revised draft Airports National Policy Statement
<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/heathrow-expansion-revised-draft-airports-national-policy-statement>
2. Revised draft Airports National Policy Statement: new runway capacity and infrastructure at airports in the south-east of England
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/654123/revised-draft-airports-nps-web-version.pdf
3. Revised draft Airports National Policy Statement: new runway capacity and infrastructure at airports in the south-east of England (change log)
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/654947/revised-draft-airports-nps-change-log.pdf
4. Appraisal of sustainability for the revised draft Airports National Policy Statement
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/appraisal-of-sustainability-for-the-revised-draft-airports-national-policy-statement>
5. Airport expansion: further updated air quality re-analysis
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/airport-expansion-further-updated-air-quality-re-analysis>
6. UK airspace policy: a framework for the design and use of airspace
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-airspace-policy-a-framework-for-the-design-and-use-of-airspace>

7. Consultation outcome Heathrow expansion: draft Airports National Policy Statement
<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/heathrow-expansion-draft-airports-national-policy-statement#feedback-received>

Appendices:

- **Appendix 1** - Spelthorne's Response to revised 'draft Airports National Policy Statement' (October 2017 edition)
- **Appendix 2** - Report of 11 May 2017 of Spelthorne's response to the February 2017 edition of the 'draft Airports National Policy Statement'