

## **Spelthorne Borough Council's response to Heathrow Consultation**

### **Executive summary**

Spelthorne Borough Council recognise the importance of Heathrow's 'hub' status to the UK economy, acknowledge the case for a third runway and reiterate our support, in principle, for Heathrow expansion because of the potential benefits to and opportunities for the local area.

However the Council's support has always been entirely dependent on Heathrow Airport Limited (HAL) ensuring that any scheme comprehensively and effectively mitigates against impacts on noise, traffic, air quality, the wider environment, infrastructure and local road networks.

Spelthorne's primary aim must always be to secure the best possible outcomes for our residents and businesses, in particular those most directly affected in the Stanwell Moor and Stanwell communities. We do not believe that HAL has fully considered the overall cumulative impact of the expanded airport on those communities. Expansion on the scale proposed will bring airport-related development far closer to people's homes and families, changing these villages forever.

Residents need reassurance that HAL will fully meet any pledges made to minimise the impacts of whatever scheme is taken forward.

The consultation documents are short on detail: they do not provide any baseline data from which Spelthorne can fully assess the impacts of all the proposed changes. Neither does the consultation touch on important issues such as flight paths which will be crucial to assessing the wider impacts expansion will have on our borough. The Council must therefore reserve its final position on critical issues affecting our communities.

Based on the information available at this stage of the consultation process, Spelthorne has a list of ten requirements:

1. The Wider Property Offer Zone (WPOZ) must be expanded to cover the whole of Stanwell Moor and large parts of Stanwell
2. Parking controls in Stanwell Moor and large parts of Stanwell and an on-airport taxi/private hire facility (with HAL to cover the full costs)
3. HAL to provide an enhanced multi-purpose community hall for Stanwell Moor and Stanwell Village and a new leisure facility in the locality (plus 3G pitches), improved facilities in local recreation grounds (outdoor gyms), perimeter paths round open spaces and fishing facilities. These need to be provided in advance of any development work.
4. No Immigration Removal Centres in the borough.
5. Surface access/public transport -
  - i) Support and commit to help fund the capital cost of implementing Spelthorne's Southern Light Rail proposal to improve existing infrastructure, enhance connectivity for the airport whilst integrating with the heavy rail network to the south.

- ii) Introduce regular and quick bus routes into Heathrow to enable local residents to access jobs at the expanded airport
  - iii) Full support for Spelthorne to be included within the London Transport Oyster Card Zone 6 operating area.
  - iv) Minimise unnecessary vehicle movements for example by providing a pod/shuttle link between the proposed cargo hub north and south of the Southern Perimeter Road
  - v) Develop a Construction Environmental Management Plan covering traffic management (including designated routes for HGVs), site management, accommodation for workers and effective communications to minimise effects on local residents. HAL to pay Council for any enforcement that has to be undertaken where sub-contractors do not comply with the Management Plan or do not get relevant permissions.
6. Air quality must be no worse for our residents than it is now and we would expect there to be measures in place to ensure continuous improvement in the local air quality experienced by residents.
  7. Spelthorne would expect there to be continuous improvement in the noise experienced by residents.
  8. Night flights should be banned and strict penalties must be imposed for any breaches, with all the monies put back into the affected communities. Whilst Spelthorne supports reducing the number of people overflowed by aircraft, more information is needed about what this means for residents for us to make an informed decision.
  9. No changes to the borough boundary
  10. Staines Moor is an important Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and should remain undisturbed. Work on redirecting the River Colne must not alter the flow or character of the river on the Moor.