

Contact: Rachel Cordery
Direct Line: 01293 438498
Email: rachel.cordery@crawley.gov.uk
Date: 19 July 2013

Peter Browning, Director
Environment and Housing



Airports Commission
6th Floor
Sanctuary Buildings
20 Great Smith Street
London SW1P 3BT

Dear Sir or Madam,

AIRPORTS COMMISSION DISCUSSION PAPER 02: AVIATION CONNECTIVITY AND THE ECONOMY

I am writing in response to the request by the Airports Commission for comments on Discussion Paper 02: Aviation Connectivity and the Economy.

Crawley Borough Council is the local authority for Gatwick Airport and therefore has a significant interest in the work of the Airports Commission and the way in which it will be considering the issue of aviation capacity.

I would be grateful if you could take into account the following comments.

The paper considers the issue of aviation connectivity and the economy at a macro level considering the UK economy as a whole and its connection to a range of destinations including those who are part of the global emerging economies. Whilst it is appropriate to do this, there is very little discussion of the impact of an international gateway on the local and regional economies surrounding airports. It is not clear whether the consideration of local and regional issues will form part of another discussion paper.

The local and regional economies surrounding airports not only provide a range of goods and services which are directly required as part of the aviation industry, but these locations are also home to businesses which are attracted to a location which benefits from being located close to an airport and the connections to other destinations and services that this provides. Airports therefore have a strong influence on the economies of the areas in which they are located.

Changes to the way in which the UK's connectivity needs are met and the way they affect existing airports and their local and regional economies is an important matter which needs to be considered as part of the work of the Airports Commission. Significant growth at one airport or the creation of a new airport is likely to affect the passenger routes and services at existing airports. This could have a subsequent knock on effect on jobs directly related to airports as well as the locational decisions of businesses.



Therefore the impact of connectivity on the distribution of jobs and impact of any changes on the local and regional economy as well as the national economy needs to be full consideration.

Yours sincerely,


RACHEL CORDERY
Principal Planning Officer

01293 438498

Rachel.cordery@crawley.gov.uk