

APPENDIX 2

Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council Response to the Airports Commission Consultation (November 2014)

<p>Questions inviting views and conclusions in respect of the three short-listed options</p>	<p>Q1: What conclusions, if any, do you draw in respect of the three short-listed options? In answering this question please take into account the Commission's consultation documents and any other information you consider relevant. The options are described in section three.</p> <p>Response: This Council welcomes the Commission's decision <u>not</u> to shortlist the Estuary Airport option.</p> <p>This Council opposes the option for expanding Gatwick Airport for the reasons set out in the Cabinet report of 3rd February 2015.</p> <p>Of the three shortlisted options the Heathrow (North) option would appear to offer the best solution to meeting future airport capacity in terms of building on the airport's international hub status; delivering what the business and aviation sectors want; and providing the potential for the greatest benefit to cost ratio.</p>
	<p>Q2: Do you have any suggestions for how the short-listed options could be improved, i.e. their benefits enhanced or negative impacts mitigated? The options and their impacts are summarised in section three.</p> <p>Response: Given the detrimental effects of the environmental impacts associated with airport expansion on the communities affected, taking a considered view on the options has to be fully informed by a detailed assessment of the potential benefits to offset the costs.</p> <p>In the case of the Gatwick option there is little detail of what these benefits might be beyond the 14 nearest local authorities in GAL's own study area, which does not extend into Kent.</p> <p>The potential for increased disturbance in west Kent due to overflying is well understood, but there is insufficient information on any benefits to make a balanced judgement.</p>
<p>Questions on the Commission's appraisal and overall approach</p>	<p>Q3: Do you have any comments on how the Commission has carried out its appraisal? The appraisal process is summarised in section two.</p> <p>Response: The methodology adopted by the Commission seems to be sound.</p>

	<p>Q4: In your view, are there any relevant factors that have not been fully addressed by the Commission to date?</p> <p>Response: Now that there are a limited number of options to consider an assessment of the opportunity cost of choosing one option over another would be helpful (i.e. if Heathrow were to be chosen over Gatwick what would be the consequences for Gatwick going forward and visa versa).</p>
<p>Questions inviting comments on specific areas of the Commission's appraisal</p>	<p>Q5: Do you have any comments on how the Commission has carried out its appraisal of specific topics (as defined by the Commission's 16 appraisal modules), including methodology and results?</p> <p>Response: No comment.</p>
	<p>Q6: Do you have any comments on the Commission's sustainability assessments, including methodology and results?</p> <p>Response: No comment</p>
	<p>Q7: Do you have any comments on the Commission's business cases, including methodology and results?</p> <p>Response: No comment</p>
<p>Other comments</p>	<p>Q8: Do you have any other comments?</p> <p>Response: No comment.</p>