

COUNCIL OVERVIEW BOARD

Item under consideration: SURREY AIRPORTS POLICY

Date Considered: 10 September

At its meeting on 10 September the Council Overview Board considered the Surrey Airports Policy. Presentations were given by Heathrow and Gatwick Airports and the Deputy Leader of the Council. Upon debating the subject and hearing evidence from witnesses, the Board made the following recommendations:

1. Surrey County Council should urge government to make a quick and final decision on airport capacity in the South East.
2. The Council should be fully involved in the considerable work involved to refine any proposals after an 'in principle' decision on extra capacity is made. However, the council's financial exposure should be minimised as far as possible.
3. The Council should reiterate its regret (as expressed in their submission to the Airports Commission) that the commission did not explore the issues of surface access to any expanded airport in nearly enough detail, and recommends this should be given high priority.
4. The majority of Council Overview Board members agree that an extra runway, at one of the shortlisted locations recommended in the Airport Commission's report, should be provided as soon as practicable, not withstanding the reservations expressed above.

David Munro
Chairman of the Council Overview Board

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