



Gloucestershire Airport Limited
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17th November 2008

Dear Sirs

GLOUCESTERSHIRE AIRPORT RUNWAY SAFETY PROJECT

As you may be aware, Gloucestershire Airport is currently pursuing a development plan that will see the removal of various obstacles close to the runway ends and the establishment of a Runway End Safety Area (RESA) on land immediately to the west of the current airport boundary.

In 2007 the plans were scrutinised by Cheltenham Borough and Gloucester City Councils' Joint Airport Scrutiny Working Group, with a unanimous decision to support the project, subject to certain conditions. As a result, Cheltenham Borough Council cabinet approved the plans and is currently supporting the business in achieving its goal. However, in February 2008, Gloucester City Council's Overview and Scrutiny Management committee raised concerns about the project over land ownership, borrowing and environmental issues. The item was withdrawn from the agenda of subsequent Cabinet and Council meetings to enable the Chief Executive to prepare a report analysing all aspects of the plans. This report is now complete and will be subject to further scrutiny when the OSM Committee meets on the 2nd December 2008. This is currently scheduled for 17.30 at the City Council's offices, subject to confirmation. The recommendations the OSM Committee will be presented Cabinet and Council on the 10th December 2008 and 15th January 2009, respectively.

During the lengthy consultation period, associated with this project, the feedback received from local businesses has been highly supportive with many stakeholders recognising the direct and indirect benefits the Airport brings to the region. We urgently need to ensure that the strong endorsements we have received are highlighted to Gloucester City Council as they come to their decision. We are asking for stakeholders to write in support of the plan ahead of the meeting. It could also prove invaluable if you were prepared to attend the meeting and offer support directly during Public Questions.

The key aim of the project is to meet the CAA safety requirements, enhancing the safety of our operations and securing the business for the future. It will restore around 160 metres to our main runway landing distance, reversing the progressive reductions we have suffered over the last 30 years, as a result of increased Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) safety requirements. In addition to being fully compliant with modern safety standards, the project will deliver operational enhancements to the Airport's existing runway. The removal of obstacles and close in obstructions will improve accessibility for business and corporate aircraft, which are currently performance regulated by the obstacle environment. The introduction of an Instrument Landing System (ILS) will equip the airport with the standard landing aid used throughout the world, increasing its attraction to



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business users. This much needed facility will also serve the training needs of home-based and visiting operators, who currently face additional flight times and capacity constraints when carrying out this essential training at the major airports nearby.

These developments together with our multiple runway configuration, convenient M5 and A40 access, will consolidate our position as the leading General Aviation and business airport in the South West and create a first class facility urgently needed to serve the Airport's thriving business catchment population of more than 2 million.

Without this project the Airport faces an uncertain future. The only alternative method of meeting the CAA safety requirements is to further reduce the available runway lengths. This will inevitably lead to the cessation of the majority of business and commercial flights with the subsequent effect on revenue, jobs and infrastructure as the Airport downsizes to meet the needs of a smaller customer base.

Your written support should be addressed, preferably before the 28 November 2008, directly to the Chief Executive, by the methods shown below.

Mr. Julian Wain
Chief Executive Officer
Gloucester City Council
North Warehouse
The Docks
Gloucester
GL1 2EP

Email: julian.wain@gloucester.gov.uk

I would appreciate being copied on all correspondence and would be happy to provide you with further information or guidance if there are any specific areas you would like to highlight. It would also be helpful to know whether you are able to attend the meeting. I will confirm the location and time as soon as possible.

I cannot over emphasise the importance of this key decision to the future and long term viability of Gloucestershire Airport and your support, particularly given the short timeframe we face, will be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Mark Ryan
Airport Director