



ENGLISH HERITAGE

National Planning Advice Team
1 Waterhouse Square
138-142 Holborn
London EC1N 2ST

Consultation on Regulating Air Transport
Aviation Regulatory & Consumer Policy
Department for Transport
1/25 Great Minster House
76 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DR

Our ref:
Your ref:

Telephone
Fax

020 7973 3844
020 7973 3574

11 March 2010

Dear Sir or Madam

REGULATING AIR TRANSPORT: CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS TO UPDATE THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR AVIATION

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the DfT consultation on regulating air transport. I am responding on behalf of English Heritage as Senior Transport Advisor. I can confirm that the information submitted is not confidential.

English Heritage's role

English Heritage is an Executive Non-Departmental Public Body sponsored by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, with our funding agreement signed by CLG and DEFRA. We work in partnership with central government departments, local authorities, voluntary bodies and the private sector to conserve and enhance the historic environment, broaden public access to our cultural heritage, and increase people's understanding and appreciation of the past.

We are the UK Government's statutory adviser and a statutory consultee on all aspects of the historic environment and its heritage assets. This includes archaeology on land and under water, historic buildings sites and areas, designated landscapes and the historic elements of the wider landscape.

Our comments on this consultation relate only to the proposal to introduce a general environmental objective for the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA),

The proposed general environmental objective

English Heritage welcomes the proposal for a general environmental duty.

We support the preferred option (Option 1) of a general environment objective alongside the proposed safety and consumer objectives, which would require the CAA, where possible and appropriate, to have regard for environmental factors and

to seek environmental improvements. This would ensure that the historic environment was conserved and enhanced where appropriate.

We feel that the Option 2 alternative, of enabling but not requiring the CAA to have regard for environmental factors, would offer insufficient protection.

The environment for the purposes of the proposed duty should include the historic environment and cultural heritage. This would be consistent with Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive 2001/42/EC¹, the Amended EIA Directive 97/11/EC and the European Landscape Directive.

Policy guidance on the historic environment

In applying the general environment duty when evaluating proposals for development, the CAA will need to take account of Planning Policy Guidance 15 and 16 and any successor documents which set out the government policy approach to the historic environment. Consideration needs to be given to the conservation and enhancement of both heritage assets (i.e. those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest) and their setting. Setting may include noise as well as visual impact.

Yours sincerely,

ANNE LOCKE
Senior Transport Adviser
anne.locke@english-heritage.org.uk

¹ ...the environment, including ... issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors.

If you would like this document in a different format, please contact
our Customer Services department:
Telephone: 0870 333 1181
Fax: 01793 414926
Textphone: 01793 414878
E-mail: customers@english-heritage.org.uk