

11th November 2021

Planning Policy and Programmes Team Warrington Borough Council Town Hall Sankey Street Warrington WA1 1HU

Dear Planning Policy and Programmes Team,

CONSULTATION ON WARRINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL'S UPDATED PROPOSED SUBMISSION VERSION LOCAL PLAN

Thank you for consulting Manchester Airports Group on your Updated Draft Local Plan. We note the key changes that have been made since publication of the initial Proposed Submission Version and have the following comments to make:

Strategic Planning Policies

Policy INF6 – Aerodrome Safeguarding (Manchester Airport)

We strongly support policy INF6. It is essential that the safe and efficient operation of Manchester Airport is protected, and this may have some implications for land and development within the Borough. The inclusion of Policy INF6 is therefore justified. The policy wording is robust and encompasses all aspects of aerodrome safeguarding, which are effectively explained in the supporting text. As such, we believe that Policy INF6 is sound and does not require any modification.

Policy ENV7 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Development

We welcome the requirement that is set out at paragraph 9.7.12 for wind energy proposals to demonstrate accordance with policy INF6. No modification to the text is required.

Site Allocations

Policy MD2 – South East Warrington Urban Extension

Although the allocation of new homes has been reduced from 7400 that were proposed as part of the Garden Suburb concept formerly consulted on, to a minimum of 4200 homes (2400 during the plan period) within the new South East Warrington Urban Extension, this allocation policy is still of high interest to us. This is due to the scale of the proposed urban extension and associated infrastructure delivery, comprehensive transport improvements and extensive green infrastructure network that are to be delivered in relatively close proximity, and therefore accessibility, to Manchester Airport. Whilst we don't have any specific comments relating to the content of the policy and its soundness, we are keen to be included in any future discussions surrounding the preparation of site masterplans and proposed transport measures, particularly in relation to capacity improvements at the M56/M6 intersection. Please also ensure that we are consulted on the Development Framework that will be prepared for the South East Warrington Urban Extension.

Policy MD6 – The South East Warrington Employment Area

This site has excellent locational advantages adjacent to the strategic route network and can benefit from its relatively close proximity and therefore accessibility to Manchester Airport, such as through the enhanced connectivity, and access to international markets, that the airport offers to local businesses. Although we don't have any comments relating to the soundness of this policy, due to the proximity and potential relationship between Manchester Airport and the South East Warrington Employment Area, the delivery of this allocation is of high interest to us. Of most significance to us will be the potential impact on the strategic road network in the vicinity of Manchester Airport and implementation of new transport measures, including any mitigation measures that are required to offset any impact of traffic generated by the new employment site. We would therefore appreciate being consulted on the Development Framework that will address the detailed requirements of this policy.

Thank you again for providing us with the opportunity to comment on the Updated Proposed Submission Version of your Local Plan. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or wish to discuss any of the points made in more detail. We would be grateful if you could keep us informed of the Plan's progress.

Yours sincerely,

Natalie Belford **Planner**