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Date	9 th February 2015

Ward (s) affected	N/A	Key Decision	No
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Subject	Aviation Working Group – Terms of Reference
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RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive is asked to agree that an Aviation Working Group be re-established with the Terms of Reference set out in Appendix 1 to this report.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

Support businesses and the local economy by enabling development in Mole Valley and facilitating appropriate housing growth.

Improve the quality of the built environment whilst preserving the character and integrity of our towns and villages, and protecting the rural landscape.

Work with our partners and residents to respond to the impact of flooding on communities.

The Executive has the authority to determine the recommendation.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In response to the establishment of the Airports Commission in 2012 to examine the need for additional UK airport capacity, Mole Valley District Council established the Aviation Working Group to assist in the development of the Council's responses to the Airports Commission consultation in the autumn of 2014.

1.2 Mole Valley's responses were considered by Council and then the Executive in the early part of 2015 and the following submission was made:-

- 1) *That the Council opposes a second runway at Gatwick airport.*
 - 2) *That the Council raises no objection to a north west runway or extended runway at Heathrow airport.*
 - 3) *That the Airports Commission be urged to recommend that capacity improvements in transport networks should meet background and airport demand in full as a condition of any airport expansion*
 - 4) *In the event that the Airports Commission recommends a second runway at Gatwick, that the Council work in partnership with the operator, other authorities and infrastructure providers to secure an enhanced package of mitigation and compensation measures as part of a comprehensive plan for the area.*
- 1.3 Since this submission, a decision on the location for another runway in the south east of England has been delayed, and is not now expected from Government until the summer. Notwithstanding the Airports Commission's recommendation that Heathrow is the preferred location for a runway there remains uncertainty over the decision, which is of concern to local communities around Gatwick. Mole Valley has been asked whether there is anything more it can do to influence the Government's decision.
- 1.4 In addition, the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has sought views on surface access to airports, focusing on competitive conditions for road and forecourt access and how well consumers are informed of options to access UK airports. The consultation extends until 22 April 2016.
- 1.5 Lastly, in response to mounting concern about noise disturbance from changes to the use airspace, Gatwick Airport commissioned the Gatwick Airport Independent Arrivals Review. The report, which was published on 28 January 2016, makes 23 recommendations to address the noise climate around Gatwick Airport and improve communications between relevant parties. Some of these recommendations will have an impact on Mole Valley.
- 1.6 It is therefore proposed that the Aviation Working Group be re-established (5 Members – 3 Conservative, 1 Liberal Democrat and 1 Independent) to take forward a response to the CAA on behalf of Mole Valley District Council; to respond to the recommendations of the Independent Arrivals Review; to consider whether there is anything more it can or wishes to do to influence the Government on the location of a new runway; and be in a position to advise the Executive, should Government make an announcement on the location of a runway in the south east later this summer.

2.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 2.1 The issue which the Working Group will consider clearly has very major economic/financial implications for both the District and the District Council. However, there are only limited costs arising from the holding of meetings such as travelling expenses, Officer attendance and the cost of producing agendas and minutes. These will all be met from within existing budgets.

3.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no legal implications arising from the establishment of this Working Group.

4.0 OPTIONS

4.1 The Executive is asked whether or not it wishes to establish an Aviation Working Group with the accompanying terms of reference, or if it wishes to amend any of the terms of reference.

5.0 CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Monitoring Officer Commentary

The legal implications have been considered under paragraph 3.1.

Section 151 Officer Commentary

The financial implications arising from this proposal have been set out in paragraph 2.1.

6.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

Terms of Reference – Aviation Working Group

The Aviation Working Group is a group established by the Executive to provide advice to the Executive on aviation matters, with particular focus on responding to the development of a new runway in the south east.

The Working Group will consist of 5 Members of the Council, will be politically balanced and will be chaired by the Executive Member for Planning (who will be one of the 5 members) or his/her nominee. The Working Group will:

- meet as required in order to consider and advise on MVDC's response to any relevant aviation related consultations or proposals in advance of their considerations by the Executive
- ensure that the Council contributes towards the joint working of the other Gatwick Area Local Authority Partners and feeds back the views of those authorities to the Council
- keep the respective political groups apprised of the work being undertaken by the Group and the progress made
- Report its notes and recommendations to the Executive