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<b>Ward (s) affected</b>	N/A	<b>Key Decision</b>	No
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<b>Subject</b>	<b>Aviation Working Group – Terms of Reference</b>
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	
<p>The Executive is asked to agree that an Aviation Working Group be established with the Terms of Reference set out in the Appendix to this report.</p>	

<b>CORPORATE PRIORITIES</b>
<b>Environment - Maintaining the character and environment of Mole Valley</b>
<p>Aviation Working Group will play a key role in developing the Council's responses to consultations on aviation matters in the South East.</p>
<b>The Executive has the authority to determine the recommendations.</b>

## 1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The coalition Government established the Airports Commission in 2012 to examine the need for additional UK airport capacity. The Commission is required to make recommendations to the Government about how this can be met in the short, medium and long term, considering the national, regional and local implications of any proposals.
- 1.2 Under the chairmanship of Sir Howard Davies, the Airports Commission invited proposals from airport operators for increasing airport capacity. Gatwick Airport Limited (GAL) the owners of the airport submitted three options for the configuration of an additional runway and associated infrastructure at the airport: close-spaced; wide spaced/dependent operation; and wide spaced/independent operation.

- 1.3 The Airports Commission published an interim report in December 2013 and concluded that additional runway capacity is required in the South East. It short listed for further detailed appraisal a proposal for a second runway at Gatwick alongside two alternative proposals for an additional runway at Heathrow.
- 1.4 Since the Airports Commission published its short list, GAL has been refining its ideas about an additional runway and how it would be operated alongside the existing runway. It conducted a consultation in April / May of this year to which MVDC responded.

#### What happens next?

- 1.5 The sequence of events leading up to the Airports Commission's recommendations to Government are as follows:
- Autumn 2014
    - The Airports Commission will carry out a nationwide consultation based on the final schemes for additional runways at Heathrow and Gatwick.
  - Summer 2015
    - The Airports Commission makes its recommendations to the Government. Their recommendation will be based on an assessment of the environmental, economic and social costs of each proposal, whilst also considering operational, commercial and technical viability
- 1.6 MVDC needs to be in a position to respond in the first instance to the Airports Commission consultation in the Autumn and it is felt that a Member Working Group will assist in developing the Council's responses.

## **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 Airports Commission nationwide consultation in the Autumn of 2014.

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 carried out by the Airports Commission in 2014 and 2015 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.