

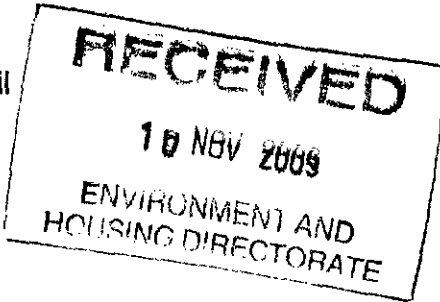


SCAN 2009/0326
WEBSITE. 10327

GOVERNMENT OFFICE
FOR THE SOUTH EAST

Representing Central Government in the South East

Mr P Fairham
Crawley Borough Council
Town Hall
The Boulevard
Crawley
West Sussex RH10 1UZ



**SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES AND
HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT
DIRECTORATE
PLANNING CASEWORK**

Bridge House
1 Walnut Tree Close
Guildford
GU1 4GA
Switchboard: 01483 882255
Tel: 01483 884852
FAX: 01483 882489

e-mail: susan.barnes@gose.gsi.gov.uk
www.go-se.gov.uk

17 November 2009

Our Ref: GOSE 103/003/CRAW/63361
Your Ref: CR/2009/0326/FUL and
CR/2009/0327/FUL

Dear Sir

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (AS AMENDED)
PLANNING AND COMPULSORY PURCHASE ACT 2004
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE)
ORDER 1995**

Proposed erection of southern and eastern extensions to the North Terminal, and proposed erection of a multi storey car park adjacent to North Terminal at Gatwick Airport

**Application Nos: CR/2009/0326/FUL and CR/2009/0327/FUL
Applicant: Gatwick Airport Ltd**

1. I refer to requests made for the Secretary of State to intervene in the above applications for planning permission and call them in for his own determination.
2. As you know, our general approach is not to interfere with the jurisdiction of local planning authorities unless it is necessary to do so. Parliament has entrusted them with responsibility for day-to-day planning control in their areas. Local planning authorities are normally best placed to make decisions relating to their areas and it is right that, in general, they should be free to carry out their duties responsibly, with the minimum of interference.

3. There will be occasions however, when the Secretary of State may consider it necessary to call in a planning application to determine himself instead of leaving it to the local planning authority. His policy is to be very selective about calling in planning applications. He will, in general, only take this step if planning issues of more than local importance are involved and if those issues need to be decided by the Secretary of State rather than at a local level. Each case is, however, considered on its own facts.
4. We have carefully considered all the matters raised about these applications. Bearing in mind that the issue before him for decision is not whether the applications should be granted planning permission but whether or not he should call them in for his own determination, the Secretary of State considers that the following were the main matters relevant to his decision:
 - the requirement that applications for planning permission should be determined in line with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise, the Development Plan for the area being the South East Plan published on 6 May 2009, the Crawley Borough Local Plan 2000 (saved policies), and the Crawley Core Strategy adopted in 2007, amended in accordance with the High Court Ruling of 2008;

and his policies for:

- contributing to the delivery of sustainable development, taking climate change impacts into account in the design of development, as set out in Planning Policy Statement 1 (PPS1): *Delivering Sustainable Development*;
- promoting sustainable transport choices and reducing reliance on the car for work and other journeys, as set out in Planning Policy Guidance Note 13 (PPG13): *Transport*;
- locating and controlling potentially polluting development to avoid or minimise adverse effects on the use of land and on the environment, as set out in Planning Policy Statement 23 (PPS23): *Planning and Pollution Control*;
- controlling and reducing the impact of noise, as far as is practicable, at the planning stage, as set out in Planning Policy Guidance Note 24 (PPG24): *Planning and Noise*;
- avoiding inappropriate development in flood risk areas as set out in Planning Policy Statement 25 (PPS25): *Development and Flood Risk*.



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The Secretary of State has also considered the Government's policies on air transport as set out in the White Paper on The Future of Air Transport 2003.

5. Having carefully considered these and other relevant planning issues raised by this proposal, the Secretary of State is of the view that intervention would not be justified as there is not sufficient conflict with national policies on the above matters, or any other sufficient reason, to warrant calling-in these applications for his own determination. The Secretary of State is satisfied that the issues raised do not relate to matters of more than local importance, which would be more appropriately decided by him rather than the local planning authority.
6. The Secretary of State has therefore concluded that these applications should be decided by Crawley Borough Council. In light of this decision the Article 14 Direction issued pursuant by the Secretary of State's letter of 16 October 2009 is hereby withdrawn.
7. In considering whether to exercise his discretion to call in these applications, the Secretary of State has not considered the matter of whether these applications are EIA Development for the purposes of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations 1999. The local planning authority responsible for determining these applications remains the relevant authority responsible for considering whether these Regulations apply to this proposed development and, if so, for ensuring that the requirements of the Regulations are complied with.
8. I am sending copies of this letter to the organisations and individuals who wrote to the Secretary of State requesting intervention.

Yours faithfully

SUSAN BARNES

Authorised by the Secretary of State to sign in that behalf