

Paula Street
UK Airport Consultatives Committee – Liaison Group
West Sussex County Hall
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1RQ

22nd June 2009

Dear *Paula*

Planning Applications – Consultations and Publicity

Many thanks for your letter of the 5th June to our Chief Executive, John Ransford.

It is for each Local Planning Authority (LPA) to determine what and how consultations need be carried out, subject to statutory minimum requirements.

Each LPA is required to produce a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) which should include the nature and style of consultation to be carried out for major applications, including pre-application discussion between the developer and the local community. The CLG guidance is at:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/statementsinvolvement> ; and the LB Newham SCI is at

<http://www.newham.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/21E2E8DD-09A2-432C-A1EB-97BC65315725/0/SCIAdoptedJuly06.pdf>

The Planning Officers Society has produced a good practice guide providing a commentary on some of the key issues surrounding consultation and the practical difficulties associated with it. It includes this statement “Ultimately, whatever procedures are put in place, responsibility must rest with the case officer to check that all necessary notifications and consultations have been carried out in accordance with the statutory requirements and the authority’s own policy.” The guide can be found at:

<http://www.planningofficers.org.uk/file/246638aab2ca390f35f598f967e41e28/dmp-guidance-note-consultations.html>

The Planning Advisory Service (PAS) have also developed a case study on engagement which can be found here: <http://www.pas.gov.uk/pas/aio/49624>

The LGA is committed to the development of sector-led support as exemplified above but would be opposed to the imposition of extra guidance by Communities and Local

Government. A consistent approach to consultation is not unreasonable however and could be negotiated with the airport and the impacted Boroughs, not just the home Borough. Again this would be an issue for local determination.

I hope that this answers your questions, but please let me know if you require any additional information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Clive". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line that extends across the page.

Clive Harris
Business Manager for the Environment Board