DOUGLAS, Ione

From:

DOUGLAS, Ione

Sent:

23 January 2019 11:32

To:

'transportsecretary@dft.gov.uk'

Subject:

FW: Bristol International Airport - Expansion Proposals

Importance:

High

Dear Chris

I am sending this letter by email due to the urgency. I am meeting the new Chief Executive of the Airport this weekend.

As you know, there is a Public Consultation under way regarding plans by Bristol Airport to expand passenger numbers in the coming years. An application for growth to 12 mppa has been submitted to North Somerset Council. It is Phase 1 of growth to 20 mppa. In 2017 the airport reached 8 mppa. This is a 50% increase of growth.

One of the key issues, as in any airport expansion, is the impact this will have on those who live under the flight path. There is a complication on the noise issue as the airport has submitted a planning application at the same time as it is required by the DfT to make airspace changes under the CAP1616 process. Communities are aware that airspace changes can intensify noise over current residents but may also affect new communities who previously have never been under a flight path. Thus constituents believe that airspace changes should be made known under the planning application to 12 mppa.

It is now unclear how noise is to be assessed under the planning application to 12 mppa as airspace changes under the CAP1616 process commenced a consultation phase in early November before Bristol Airport submitted the planning application to the Local Authority. CAP1616 appears to address noise in far greater detail than the Local Authority processes. As you can see constituents have two different processes being carried out, one under CAP1616 and one under the planning application. Can you inform my constituents and those who potentially may be affected by airspace changes: firstly how the planning application will show the airspace changes and secondly how noise is being assessed?

Clearly, if there is a policy to alter flight paths, then many who may be potentially affected by the plans to increase passenger numbers might be affected, but would not necessarily know this during the consultation period. I would welcome clarification on this so that it might be made clear to my constituents exactly what the implications of the expansion might be.

Yours sincerely

LIAM

Parliamentary Office of the Rt Hon Dr Liam Fox MP 020 7219 4198

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