

Aviation Strategy Call for Evidence

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1** On the 21st of July, the UK Government's Department for Transport launched its call for evidence on a new aviation strategy for the UK: Beyond the horizon – the future of UK Aviation¹.
- 1.2** This call for evidence sets out the UK government's overall aims and approach for a new Aviation Strategy. It is widely accepted that aviation will play an integral role in the future of the UK economy, with notable relevance during the UK's exit of the European Union. The UK Government must achieve a balance between supporting aviation and remaining committed to addressing aviation's environmental impact through emission reduction targets.
- 1.3** SEStran welcome the opportunity to provide a submission to the call for evidence. It is understood that connectivity plays a vital part in Scotland's economy, and in some instances, provides life-line services to remote parts of the Country. However, it is a delicate balance to strike, with considerations to be made towards noise and air pollution.
- 1.4** SEStran strongly support Surface Access Policy due to the considerable increase in volume for those traveling to and from Edinburgh Airport. This growth has also seen a notable increase in parking offered at Edinburgh Airport, mainly due to the Airport's Permitted Development Rights (PDR). The current PDR for aviation is a historical anomaly, previously based on when the area was in Government ownership.
- 1.5** It is noted that the removal of PDR for aviation and harbours is supported by Edinburgh Council. With regards to the development of West Edinburgh, this is of particular significance. It is understood that there needs to be mechanism for controlling new developments around private airports, the management of transport infrastructure and developer contributions.

2. CALL FOR EVIDENCE

- 2.1** It has been four years since the publication of the Aviation Policy Framework. Due to the rapid changes in the aviation sector the UK Government think that now is the time to develop a new Aviation Strategy. The Strategy is to take a new look at the sectors and its challenges. This will be comprised of six objectives. Which are aimed to:

- Help the aviation industry work for its customers
- Ensure a safe and secure way to travel
- Build a global and connected Britain
- Encourage competitive markets
- Support growth while talking environmental impacts
- Develop innovation, technology and skills

2.2 As the Call states, the next Strategy will focus on consumers and cover the whole of the country. The UK Government intends to host a series of themed consultation papers during the course of 2017 and 2018.

2.3 Phase two will comprise of three consultations: Consultation 1 in the second half of 2017. Consultation 2 in the first half of 2018. Consultation 3 in the second half of 2018. With the final third phase publishing the Aviation Strategy by the end of 2018.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 SEStran welcomes the opportunity to respond this this phase one Call for Evidence. Responses are requested by 13th October 2017 and this paper seeks to invite member's comments by 6th October, which will be incorporated into a final response from SEStran and signed off by the Partnership Director in consultation with the Chair.

Lisa Freeman
Strategy and Projects Officer
 15th Sept 2017

Appendix 1 – HM Government, Aviation Strategy: Call for Evidence Form

Policy Implications	Support towards the Surface Access Strategy and removal of PDR for aviation and harbours
Financial Implications	
Equalities Implications	
Climate Change Implications	

ⁱ <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/a-new-aviation-strategy-for-the-uk-call-for-evidence>



Aviation Strategy: call for evidence

Personal details

1. Your:

name?

email?

2. What is the nature of your:

interest in the aviation sector?

involvement in the aviation sector?

3. Are you responding: *

on behalf of an organisation? (Go to "Organisational details")?

as an individual? (Go to "Aviation Strategy")

Organisational details

4. What is your organisation's name?



Aviation Strategy

Aim of strategy

To achieve a safe, secure and sustainable aviation sector that meets the needs of the consumers and of a global, outward facing Britain.

Strategy objectives

The strategy will have the following 6 objectives:

- help the aviation industry work for its customers
- ensure a safe and secure way to travel
- build a global and connected Britain
- encourage competitive markets
- support growth while tackling environmental impacts
- develop innovation, technology and skills

5. What are your views on the proposed aim and objectives?

6. Do you have a view on the order the objectives should be tackled? *

- Yes (Go to question 7)
- No (Go to Strategy principles)

7. In what order of importance do you think the objectives should be tackled (please rank the challenges 1 = highest priority, 6 = lowest priority)?

Ensure a safe and secure way to travel	<input type="text"/>
Support growth while tackling environmental impacts	<input type="text"/>
Encourage competitive markets	<input type="text"/>
Build a global and connected Britain	<input type="text"/>
Develop future innovation, technology and skills	<input type="text"/>
Help the aviation industry work its customers	<input type="text"/>

Why?



Strategy principles

- Consumer focused - it will put passengers and businesses at the centre of everything we do
- Market driven - it will emphasise the role of government as an enabler, helping to make the market work effectively
- Evidence led - it will target intervention on specific problems which government can address, avoiding activity that does not respond to a clear problem

8. What are your views on the proposed strategy principles?

Policy tests

- What is the rationale for action?
 - This will remain focused on what the government is trying to achieve, not just in terms of outputs such as the publication of an Aviation Strategy, but the final outcome for the sector and society
- What is government's role?
 - This will look at the need for government action to fix an identified problem, or whether activity is better carried out by others
- What does the evidence say?
 - This is a test of whether the government is using the best available evidence and whether there is anything that could be done to improve the information and data available to decision makers
- Have all the options been considered?
 - This will ask whether there are other approaches that may not have previously been considered
- What is the effectiveness of any proposed action?
 - This will ask whether government has considered the practicalities of policy decisions and if these have been properly discussed with those affected or who have an interest

9. What are your views on the proposed policy tests?



Utilising existing runways

10. What are your views on the government's proposal to support airports throughout the UK making best use of their existing runways, subject to environmental issues being addressed?

Consultation process

The consultation document lists the questions that the government would like to explore in developing the aviation strategy within each of the 6 objectives that have been identified (chapters 3 to 8).

11. Are there any other specific questions on the 6 objectives that you think should be included in the planned consultations? *

- Yes (Go to question 12)
- No (Go to question 13)

12. What other questions would you like considered?

13. Are there any other sources of information or evidence that the government should bear in mind when developing the strategy? *

- Yes (Go to question 14)
- No (Go to question 15)



14. What sources of information or evidence?

15. Does the proposed timetable (chapter 2), provide enough time to examine the existing issues in sufficient depth? *

- Yes (Go to question 17)
- No (Go to question 16)

16. What timetable would you suggest and why?

17. What action could the government to make sure that the maximum number of people, communities and organisations are engaged in the process and are able to have their views heard?

Other comments

18. Do you have any other comments on the issues raised by this call for evidence? *



HM Government

Appendix 1

- Yes (Go to question 19)
- No (Go to Organisational help)

19. What comments?

Organisational help

20. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, would your organisation be willing to:

take part in helping
development of the strategy?
help organise events to help the
development of the strategy?

Your answer