

# Heathrow Airport Limited (HAL) 2014 Taking Britain Further: Heathrow's plan for connecting the UK to growth

## Technical Assessments Submission to Airports Commission

### Purpose

This note introduces Heathrow's additional submission of technical assessments. It explains how information responds to the assessment processes described in the Sustainability Appraisal Framework (SAF) and clarifies the relationship between the topic based analysis and the integrated mitigation proposals set out within the Strategies. The accompanying assessment reports provide relevant information used during the evolution and testing of the masterplan '*Taking Britain Further*' and its supporting Mitigation Strategies and Plans.

### Context and Background

The Airports Commission invited shortlisted developers to submit "refreshed" masterplans, having published the final SAF in April 2014. The SAF describes how environmental considerations will contribute to the Commission's recommendation on the preferred masterplan. This is due by the summer of 2015, when the Commission publishes a final report.

As well as conducting an independent assessment, the Commission has invited developers to share their own assessment findings. We have agreed to provide further technical information, where this could usefully assist the Commission reach a clear understanding of how the Mitigation Strategies address the key environmental matters. In particular we feel it useful to explain how topics for which monetised outputs are required have been undertaken. This is an evolving aspect of environmental assessment, where our approach needs to be set out with clarity. In addition, the technical submissions anticipate the requirement of statutory consultees, who advise the Commission, for detailed assessment information.

### Scope and content of the technical submission

For some aspects of the appraisal modules (e.g Cultural Heritage) sufficient information is incorporated in the Mitigation Strategy. Since our main submission, the Commission has also requested and received GIS datasets referred to in the Mitigation Strategies.

For other topics we are supplying additional information that meets the Commission's Sustainability Appraisal Framework (SAF) Appendix A Appraisal Modules. Each individual report follows a set structure, as described in **Table 1**.

**Table 1 Report Structure**

Section	Description of chapter	Purpose
Requirements of SAF	Description of the Airports Commission's requirements.	To ensure we present and orientate audience on how SAF requirements are met.
Legislative and Policy context	Summary of key policy and legislative requirements, with details included in appendices.	To enable statutory consultees to recognize that their own requirements are being addressed.
Baseline	Assessment of existing effects.	Additional detail provided to support the assessment.
Methodology	Description of the methodologies, data and assumptions used to assess the effects of our proposal.	To meet requirements of the Commission to understand our assumptions and approach.
Assessment of effects	The effects on the environment of our proposal, relative to today, and in the future with and without our mitigation as required, referenced against policy requirements on the environment.	Provides evidence of the largely asserted position of the effectiveness of our mitigation in our May 2014 submission.
Mitigation Strategy	Detailed description of our mitigation.	Additional detail is provided to respond to requests from statutory consultees. The scope, costs and effects of the mitigation is the same as in our May 2014 submission and consistent with our now completed assessments.
Monetisation	The SAF, in some cases, requires effects (or impacts) to be monetised.	New information to meet requirements of SAF.

These reports take into account requests from the Environment Agency and Natural England for single standalone reports, which provide a higher degree of detail than was included in our May 2014 submission, for flooding, water quality, landscape and biodiversity.

## The Technical Assessment Submission

**Table 2** lists the 10 Assessment Reports that follow and how they contribute to the Mitigation Strategies provided in the May submission.

**Table 2: Assessment Reports**

Assessment Report	<i>Taking Britain Further</i> Volume 1 – Part 5: Mitigation Strategies
1. Air and Ground Noise Assessment	5.2 A Quieter Heathrow
2. Air Quality Assessment	5.3 Improving Air Quality
3. Biodiversity Assessment	5.5 Enhancing the Natural Environment
4. Carbon Footprint Assessment	5.7 Managing our Carbon 5.8 A Resource Efficient Heathrow
5. Water Quality and Hydro-ecology Assessment	5.5 Enhancing the Natural Environment 5.8 A Resource Efficient Heathrow
6. Assessment of Flood Risk	5.5 Enhancing the Natural Environment 5.9 Sustainable Drainage
7. Sustainable Drainage Assessment	5.9 Sustainable Drainage
8. Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment	5.5 Enhancing the Natural Environment
9. Geo-Environmental Assessment	5.10 Dealing with Existing Contamination
10. Resource Use Assessment	5.8 A Resource Efficient Heathrow