



## ***Backwell Parish Council***

Our Ref: JDS

9<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP  
Secretary of State for Transport, Aviation Policy & Reform  
Zone 1/25  
Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London  
SW1P 4DR

Dear Mr Shapps

Backwell Parish Council would like to raise concerns over the recent Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) that Bristol Airport (BA) have recently applied for. Bristol Airport land adjoins Backwell Parish and a large percentage of the property identified in this CPO at Lulsgate and Downside is within the parish boundary.

The areas of concern relate to several areas, the first being that this application from reviewing the "Bristol Airport Statement of Reasons" bases the airport planning application on the grounds that it will be required for growth to 12 million passengers per annum. (mppa) However planning reference 18/P/5118/OUT was refused by North Somerset Council (NSC) in February 2020 and is subject to an Appeal, which attempts to predict that the appeal would be overturned. As we are fully aware passenger numbers at Bristol Airport have not reached the previous goal of 10mppa, and with the current global crisis this looks along way of ever achieving the earlier target.

Secondly this application disregards the Climate Emergency declared by NSC in February 2019. Furthermore, the CPO does not comply with NSC's Core Strategy relating to the Environment, Climate Change and Sustainability CS1, CS3, CS4 and CS6. As we guard our environment and realise the preciousness of our natural surrounding this loss of green belt and its negative impact on habitat, wildlife, pollution, noise and lighting is concerning. Especially as the airport is set within a rural setting

adjacent to an area of outstanding natural beauty which is at risk through increased urbanisation.

Thirdly and finally Backwell Parish Council is concerned for the local residents who may have restrictions placed upon them in regard to access to their own properties based on the layout and vastness of the proposed works. The local neighbours have been continually impacted by the continuous expansion and land grab by the airport over the last 15 years and have restricted and controlled many of the routes around the airport, we want to ensure that residents accessing their homes either via this proposed new Airport Property or if preferably if the land is then handed to North Somerset Council again (which would be unlikely) could potentially lead to future legal issues in regards to access. This would also affect the existing services that the airport encounters such as the existing bus routes which many rely on for work, and social. This cannot be at their exclusion just so Bristol Airport can add another chargeable service for those near the airport. Residents must have recourse to their Local Authority as the key administrator, rather than a local business, in matters pertaining to the said services and connectivity.

Your Sincerely



Clerk to Backwell Parish Council