Parish Councils Airport Association

	Chair:		
Secretary:			

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

30th September 2020

Dear Mr Shapps

The Bristol Airport Limited (Land at A38 and Downside Road) Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) 2020

I am Chair of the Parish Councils Airport Association (PCAA) which represents 26 parishes and one town council surrounding Bristol Airport. Please see appendix A. Members, who are all parish councillors, met on Thursday, 24 September and agreed the following grounds for objection.

As you will be aware from the Bristol Airport Statement of Reasons, the airport planning application for growth to 12 mppa was refused by North Somerset Council and there is to be an Appeal. The planning reference is 18/P/5118/OUT. The CPO is clearly premature to the Appeal - the Highway works to the A38 and Downside Road are primarily to accommodate additional traffic generated by the additional 2 mppa. Bristol Airport is assuming the Inspectorate will overturn the refusal decision. To grant permission for the CPO before the Appeal would be pre-determining the outcome of the Appeal.

The CPO covers Highways Works which are subject to a draft 106 Agreement. The draft 106 Agreement will be examined and play a part in the Appeal process. Thus, the draft 106 Agreement may change under the examination process.

Plot 21 falls within and on the western boundary of the Felton Hill Common Land area and is owned by Highways, England. Although under Highways ownership, Plot 21 may still be Common Land. Until this is determined, it should be assumed that Plot 21 is Common Land and that Replacement Land is necessary. We note that the Airport has made more enquiries and is still waiting to hear from Commons Registration Authority.

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The parishes immediately surrounding the area have many concerns:

There is no clear explanation in the Statement of Reasons about who will own the Highways land on completion of the works. Will the Highways Land revert back to the ownership of Highways or will it remain in the ownership of the Airport? If the land is retained by the Airport, residents fear that it will be difficult to sell their homes as access may be over land that can become a ransom strip.

Other concerns range from loss of green belt, impacts on habitats and an increased urbanisation of the area through increased lighting. It is questionable whether it complies with policies within the North Somerset Core Strategy relating to the Environment, Climate, and Sustainability, policies CS1, CS3 CS4 and CS6. All these points parishes hope will be fully addressed in the Appeal.

The above objections show that the CPO is without doubt premature.

Yours sincerely

Hilary Burn

Chair PCAA

Enc: Appendix A - Parish Councils Airport Association - List of members August 2020

Appendix A - Parish Councils Airport Association List of members August 2020

North Somerset

Barrow Gurney

Blagdon

Brockley

Burrington

Butcombe

Churchill

Cleeve

Congresbury

Dundry

Kingston Seymour

Long Ashton

Winford

Wraxall and Failand

Wrington

BANES

Chew Magna

Chew Stoke

Compton Dando

Compton Martin

Keynsham Town Council

Nempnett Thrubwell

Newton St Loe

Publow w Pensford

Stanton Drew

Stowey Sutton

Timsbury

Ubley

Sedgemoor

Shipham