



SUBMISSION TO BRADFORD CORE STRATEGY (PUBLICATION DRAFT)

Introduction

WYG Planning & Environment has been instructed by Leeds Bradford International Airport Limited (LBIA) to make a submission to Bradford Metropolitan District Council (BDC) in response to the Publication Draft consultation stage for the Bradford Core Strategy.

This representation highlights key policies in the Publication Draft and sets out LBIA's comments.

Spatial Vision, Objectives and Core Policies

Policy SC1-4: "Overall Approach and Key Spatial Priorities" indicates that plans, strategies, programmes and investment decisions should "...optimise the opportunities provided by the close proximity of Leeds Bradford International Airport as an International business gateway for the District and the region."

The proximity of the airport to BDC provides considerable opportunity to support existing businesses in the District and encourage further inward investment. Given LBIA's strong growth in the last year and its long term potential to support the economic ambitions of BDC and the wider city region, LBIA supports the emphasis attached to the airport in the spatial development strategy.

Planning for Prosperity - Economy and Jobs

Policy EC1-I: "Creating a successful and competitive Bradford District economy within the Leeds City Region" highlights that plans, strategies, programmes and investment decisions should help deliver the role of LBIA as a significant economic driver and the need to enhance transport links between the District and the airport.

LBIA support the identification of the airport as a significant economic driver for the district. In order to accelerate the airport's growth and the contribution its' international connectivity delivers for the District, and the wider City Region, LBIA welcomes the District's support for improved transport links.

Policy EC3-C1: "Employment Land Requirement" highlights how the Allocations DPD will examine the requirement for high quality employment locations in areas such as North Bradford, which is tied to the locational benefits of LBIA.

As has been demonstrated by other airports across the UK and further afield, proximity to an airport, to deliver international connectivity, is an increasingly important consideration for many businesses when they choose to locate. The new routes secured by LBIA, including the BA link to London, generates much improved connectivity for existing businesses and the potential to attract new businesses to the area which would otherwise locate outside the region. We therefore support BDC in providing the opportunity for high quality businesses to locate near the airport to benefit from its connectivity.

Transport and Movement

Policy TR3-C: "Public Transport, Cycling and Walking" stipulates that the public transport provision should be improved throughout the District in compliance with priorities set out in LTP3, Railplan 7 and Leeds City Region Transport Strategy, including access to LBIA.

LBIA support improved public transport provision to the airport. Given the support set out in the West Yorkshire Transport Fund, BDC may wish to identify specifically, the potential for both a rail and road connections to the airport in part c (5) of Policy TR3.

Policy TR5: "Improving Connectivity and Accessibility" indicates the ability of the District's Highway, Rail and Bus Networks should be protected and enhanced, including routes to provide access to LBIA.



LBIA supports the district's focus on safeguarding the potential to deliver improved connectivity to the airport.

Policy TR6-B: "Freight" indicates that planning and development decisions and transport policies should "...encourage the location of storage/distribution development with high levels of freight and commercial traffic close to intermodal freight facilities, airports, or roads designed and managed as traffic distributors."

As indicated previously, LBIA considers that there is potential for businesses to be attracted to the airport to benefit from the international connectivity it provides. This may include freight, in particular small, high value freight which can be accommodated within existing passenger aircraft.

Sub Area Policies

Policy BD1-F10: "The Regional City of Bradford including Shipley and Lower Baildon", Policy AD1-E: "Airedale" and Policy WD1-E: "Wharfedale" seek improvements in surface access connectivity from Bradford's key settlements to the airport.

LBIA provides an opportunity to develop as a hub for improving transport connections between settlements within the City Region and to international markets, and therefore supports the sub-area policies that seek to deliver this objective.