



SOUTH EAST ENGLAND REGIONAL ASSEMBLY PLENARY MEETING

Date: 7 March 2007

Subject: **Resolution**

Proposed by: Cllr Henry Smith, Leader, West Sussex County Council

Proposed Resolution:

SEERA reaffirms its view that “plan, monitor and manage” would be the most appropriate approach to provision of additional airport capacity in the South East while effort is directed at achieving more sustainably balanced solutions to airport development. SEERA therefore calls on the Government for a review of current aviation policy and for a halt to plans for the expansion of runway capacity in the South East.

Background and Comment:

The recent Department for Transport Progress Report¹ recognizes that sustainable economic growth requires recognition of our environmental responsibilities.

The Stern report has identified climate change as a serious global threat demanding an urgent global response. The benefits of strong and early action are seen to far outweigh the economic costs of not acting – or of acting in the distant future when the effects are likely to be irreversible.

Many of the major plans for providing the additional airport capacity laid down in the Aviation White Paper are late. Meanwhile, we are increasingly aware that current patterns of growth are not sustainable and that the costs and risks to be incurred are high. We have an opportunity to consider an alternative to the Aviation White Paper provisions, recognizing our environmental responsibilities, and making more use of an integrated transport solution.

Date/Time lodged with the secretariat: 22 February 2007 at 09.29 hrs

I: The Future of Air Transport Progress Report, December 2006