

Highways, Transportation and Waste Management Scrutiny Committee -

Thursday 24 October 2002

Government Consultation on the future development of Air Transport in the United Kingdom.

Mr. G. H. Perkins JP CC has been sent a copy of the above report under the Sensitive Issues Procedure and telephoned to make the following comments:-

1. As the member for Shepshed, which is approximately 3 miles as the crow flies from the East Midlands Airport, he is aware of no official complaints having been made about noise or disruption caused by the airport, and indeed does not himself find it a problem living in the area.
2. On the contrary, there has been a great deal of support in the locality for the economic benefits which the airport has brought. Many people in the area have found work there and are pleased to be able to travel on holiday from a nearby airport.
3. He considers that the benefits of the East Midlands Airport outweigh any problems, and that on balance people in the area would support the option for maximum use of the airport.
4. Mr. Perkins suggests that any developing problems with the East Midlands Airport would best be addressed in the lead-up to the next local plan, in 2020.
5. As regards a second runway, he considers that there is no case for this at the present. Environmental aspects need further consideration for instance. It was possible at present for larger planes (travelling across the Atlantic for example) to leave from the East Midlands Airport, without a development of another runway.