Dear Sir/ Madam,

I'm writing to update you on an important piece of work that London Stansted Airport began in March as part of the Government's national programme to modernise the way UK airspace is managed. Since that time, the unprecedented global public health emergency caused by COVID-19 has impacted us all and looks set to dominate the way we live and work for months to come.

Along with the rest of the country, we hope the measures being put in place will enable the country to recover quickly from this unprecedented situation. UK aviation will have a central role to play in this, and the benefits of the government's airspace modernisation programme will be just as important in managing our airspace efficiently.

All airports in the UK have been asked to review their current controlled airspace up to 7,000 feet and decide whether the routes currently flown by aircraft are the best they can be. The aim of the programme is to increase safety and efficiency of operations, whilst also seeking to reduce carbon emissions and the impact of noise.

The first stage of this process is to determine a set of design principles – or rules – that we will use to govern the review of our airspace. Design principles are high level considerations that are general in nature. These could cover things like whether it is better to concentrate flight paths over one area or spread flights out more widely, and whether there are specific areas that flight paths shouldn't go over.

We would love to hear your views as we determine our design principles. You can find out more about London Stansted Airport's Future Airspace Programme by visiting our dedicated web-page at stanstedairport.com/futureairspace. We have also published a useful information booklet, which explains more about the programme, what we are trying to achieve, and the key areas where we would like your input. You can view the information booklet by clicking here . You can also watch our video about airspace change at Stansted here.

You can share your views via on our online feedback form here stanstedairport.com/designquestions. Here you can tell us what is important to you so we can make sure it is considered in our thinking. All of this feedback will be used by our technical teams when they start planning future routes later in the programme. This is the biggest change to the UK's airspace in over 50 years and I hope that you will be able to find the time to play your part in shaping it.

If you would like to be kept up to date with developments, please email futureairspace@stanstedairport.com and we will add you to our mailing list.

Many thanks and best wishes,

London Stansted Airport