

## ACP-2019-23 Manchester Airport FASI

### Stage 2 'Develop & Assess' Gateway Outcome – 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

[STATEMENT]

As part of Stage 2 'Develop & Assess' of the CAP 1616 airspace change process, the UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has completed a 'Develop & Assess' Gateway Assessment of Manchester Airport's airspace change proposal (ACP) – Manchester Airport FASI (ACP-2019-23).

In order for the CAA to allow an ACP to pass through the Develop & Assess Gateway:

1. the change sponsor must have produced a comprehensive list of airspace change design options;
2. the change sponsor must have engaged with relevant stakeholders to explore those options to the CAA's satisfaction against the requirements in Appendix C;
3. the change sponsor must have produced a design principle evaluation that the CAA has accepted, showing how its design options have responded to the design principles;
4. the change sponsor must have produced an Initial options appraisal (phase I);
5. the CAA must have produced and then published an assessment that the options appraisal is satisfactory against the requirements in Appendix E.

At the Gateway assessment for this proposal, the CAA concluded that Criteria 1, 3 and 4 were not met for the following reasons:

**Criterion 1: The change sponsor must have produced a comprehensive list of airspace change design options;** The development of the comprehensive list of options is not clear due to the use of the viability filter in terms of Policy (CAA containment) and DP Emissions which confers an obligation on the change sponsor, seemingly not being considered.

**Criterion 3: The change sponsor must have produced a design principle evaluation that the CAA has accepted, showing how its design options have responded to the design principles;** The CAA cannot accept the DPE as it is not clear if options have been evaluated consistently given the application of the change sponsor's viability filter and how options have then been accounted for, evaluated, and subsequently discounted in the DPE.

**Criterion 4: The change sponsor must have produced an Initial options appraisal (phase I);** The change sponsor has produced an IOA, however, it is not clear as to how they have discounted options based on the chosen metric(s).

The CAA has informed the change sponsor of this decision. In line with CAP 1616, the change sponsor is now able to reconsider its submission before resubmitting it for further review by the CAA at a future Develop & Assess Gateway.

It is important to note that whether an ACP passes a gateway successfully or not does not predetermine the CAA's later final decision on whether to approve the airspace change proposal. This decision is not an explicit or implicit comment on the merits or otherwise of this ACP. This will come at the decision-making stage (Stage 5 - DECIDE).

[END STATEMENT]