

## **ACP-2018-47 – Exeter Airport controlled airspace**

### **‘Develop & Assess’ Gateway Outcome – 28<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

[STATEMENT]

As part of Stage 2 of the CAP 1616 airspace change process, the UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has completed a Develop & Assess Gateway Assessment of Exeter and Devon Airport Limited airspace change proposal (ACP) – ACP-2018-47 – Exeter Airport controlled airspace.

In order for the CAA to sign-off 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 submission does not provide sufficient evidence that all possible options have been identified.
- The submission does not provide sufficient evidence as to why design options have been either progressed or discounted.

#### **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 submission does not assess the proposed design options in a fair and consistent manner.

#### **Criterion 4 - the change sponsor must have produced an Initial options appraisal (phase I)**

- The submission does not fully describe the baseline.

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 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]