

Flying start for Shoreham Airport

A regeneration masterplan to bring new businesses and more passengers to Shoreham Airport is on the drawing board.

A team of consultants won the contract to create a regeneration plan to transform Shoreham Airport into a thriving and sustainable facility. Ideas to revitalise Shoreham Airport include creating a rail and ride scheme between Shoreham and Brighton and building commercial space to attract new businesses to the site.

Brighton & Hove City Council and Worthing Borough Council jointly own Shoreham Airport and are working in consultation with observer authorities Adur District Council and West Sussex County Council.

Cllr Don Turner, chair of the joint authority member task group, said: "There is a bright future for Shoreham Airport. Together with consultants Drivas Jonas we can create a workable plan to revitalise Shoreham and maximise its huge potential.

"Brighton & Hove City Council is looking forward to working with Drivas Jonas and the other local authorities involved to make the regeneration of Shoreham Airport a great success."

Cllr Tex Pemberton, West Sussex County Council cabinet member for strategic environmental services, said: "Shoreham Airport is an important local facility which provides jobs and encourages inward investment, but a balance needs to be struck between the environment and the economy. We would like to see a full sustainability appraisal."

Environmental concerns will be one of the top priorities of the regeneration plan. Shoreham airport sits between Shoreham and Lancing in an area known as the 'strategic gap'. The 'gap' is intended to minimise urban sprawl between Lancing and Shoreham.

Plans to revitalise Shoreham Airport will be made in consultation with observer authorities, Adur District Council and West Sussex County Council, who will give final approval to the regeneration strategy when it's drawn up at the end of October. Local residents, landowners and interested parties will also be fully involved in the consultation process.

Ends.