

Secretary of State for Transport  
Aviation Policy & Reform  
Zone 1/25  
Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
LONDON  
SW1P 4DR

19.10.2020

Dear Mr Shapps

The Bristol Airport Limited (land at A38 and Downside Road) Compulsory  
Purchase Order ("CPO") 2020

I am writing to you in respect of the above matter. I am also writing to you after the official deadline for comment on the above matter, as the deadline was badly publicised and the deadline unreasonably tight given the complications of the pandemic on daily life.

The CPO application (referred to above) is clearly premature for the following reasons:

1. The Airport planning application (ref 18/P/5118/OUT) was refused by North Somerset Council on 10 February 2020 due to concern over the negative impact the airport expansion would have on the environment. The Bristol Airport Limited is appealing this rejection, yet the date for the resulting Public Inquiry has yet to be decided. Therefore it is grossly premature and inappropriate for Bristol Airport Limited to apply for a CPO before the planning application for the expansion has even been decided.

P.T.O.

2. By submitting a CPO application for the land around the A38, in order to expand the Highway leading up to the airport in order to cope with the proposed additional 2 million passengers per annum accessing the airport, Bristol Airport Limited is obviously anticipating that the Planning Inspectorate will rule in their favour. This approach is bullish and undermines the fair and democratic process of our planning system. It is clearly a tactical approach by Bristol Airport Limited to increase the chances of a more sympathetic hearing at appeal given that they will have already begun works to extend the highways around the Airport & incurred costs.

3. The CPO covers works to the highway which are subject to a draft S.106 Agreement. The draft S.106 Agreement will be examined and play a part in the Inquiry process and may therefore change under the examination process.

In sum, the application is premature in light of the upcoming Public Inquiry and should be rejected.

Yours sincerely

 T. Gould