

AEF Planning & Aviation Seminar,
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The AEF planning and environment handbook

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www.aef.org.uk

*Aviation, the environment and
planning law* published by AEF in
1995

Need for an update...



AIRPORTS AND PLANNING



AEF has compiled a new online handbook, 'Airports and Planning', which offers a complete revision of our 1995 publication 'Aviation, the environment and planning law'. Chapters can be downloaded from the list below.

1. [Worried about an airport expansion?](#)
2. [What are an airport's impacts? \(2.95MB\)](#)
3. [How are airports planned?](#)
4. [How do I respond to a planning application?](#)
5. [How do I comment on a plan or its assessments?](#)
6. [How do I comment on an environmental statement?](#)
7. [Is appropriate assessment needed?](#)
8. [How do I present at a public inquiry?](#)
 - [Example a](#)
 - [Example b](#)
 - [Example c](#)

[Appendix A - What does the Air Transport White Paper say about my airport?](#)

[Appendix B - What is the status of my airport's masterplan?](#)

[Appendix C - What nature conservation sites lie close to my airport? \(5.25MB\)](#)

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Appendix C - What nature conservation sites lie close to my airport? (5.25MB)



Where to find it:

<http://www.aef.org.uk/?cat=8>

OR

www.aef.org.uk

... and follow the link to Planning on
our A-Z

8.4 Tips for preparing a proof of evidence and presenting at public inquiry

Your main audience at the public inquiry is the inspector. The whole point of the inquiry is to help him/her make a decision, by teasing out arguments that the inspector will ultimately use to help support his/her decision. For development projects, the decision will be on the basis of “material considerations” and/or the local authority’s decision-making process about the project. For plans, the decision will be on the plan’s “soundness”. So ***your evidence should aim to 1. provide the inspector with the evidence to support the planning decision that you want him/her to come to, and 2. not give ammunition to the other side.***



The two inspectors and a clerk at the Stansted ‘Generation 1’ inquiry, summer 2007 (photo by Stop Stansted Expansion)

Inspectors are keen to get a well-rounded understanding of the issues affecting the decision that they have to make. This includes learning about impacts and issues that only local residents will know about; and making sure that they have thought about the problem from all angles. So ***your ‘unique selling point’ will be local knowledge and any new interpretations that you can offer*** on the other evidence in front of them.

Because inquiries operate by very clear rules, *not* playing by the rules will probably not get you very far. So if you are presenting at the inquiry (as opposed to, say, protesting at it):

✓ Do, generally:

- Dress conservatively
- Act like the other parties at the inquiry act, and argue in ways that are similar to theirs
- Make use of legal representatives and support where possible

✗ Don’t, generally:

- Use ‘creative’ ways of making your point (e.g. dance, streaking, speaking in a bird costume), though videos might be acceptable
- Interrupt the proceedings, yell at the speakers etc.

APPENDIX B. WHAT IS THE STATUS OF MY AIRPORT'S MASTERPLAN?

The information in this document was correct in early January 2008. The status of airport masterplans in the UK is changing rapidly. Please [contact AEF](#) if you have more up to date information, or information on other airports/airfields and would like us to include it in this file.

Airport / airfield	Web-link to master plan	Master plan status	Web-link to sustainability appraisal	Sustainability appraisal status	Web-link to appropriate assessment	Appropriate assessment status
England						
Alconbury	Not found	N/A	Not found	N/A	Not found	N/A
Biggin Hill	http://sharepoint.bromley.gov.uk/Public%20PDF/05-exec-0703.pdf	Draft	Not found	N/A	Not found	N/A
*Birmingham Int.	http://www.bhx.co.uk/Planning/85.pdf	Final	Not found	N/A	Not found	N/A
*Blackpool	http://www.blackpoolinternational.com/pdfs/Masterplan_2006.pdf	Draft	Not found	N/A	Not found	N/A
*Bournemouth	http://www.bournemouthairport.com/documents/1178882072.pdf	Final	Not found	N/A	Not found	N/A
*Bristol	http://www.bristolairport.co.uk/upload/bia_master_plan_summary.pdf	Final	http://www.bristolairport.co.uk/upload/sustainability_appraisal.pdf	Final	Not found	N/A
Carlisle	Not found	N/A	Not found	N/A	Not found	N/A
Cosford	Not found	N/A	Not found	N/A	Not found	N/A
Coventry	Not found	N/A	Not found	N/A	Not found	N/A