

Frequently asked questions about Bristol International Airport's planning application.

1. [What is the application for?](#)
2. [Where can I see the application?](#)
3. [How can I obtain more information about Bristol International Airport \(BIA\)?](#)
4. [What is the BIA master plan?](#)
5. [How can I learn more about the planning system?](#)
6. [Can I have copies of the plans?](#)
7. [Who has been consulted?](#)
8. [How can I contact my parish council?](#)
9. [How can I submit my comments?](#)
10. [Do I have to write in again if I sent in comments for the master plan?](#)
11. [How much time do I have to submit my comments?](#)
12. [How do I know if you have received my comments?](#)
13. [What happens to my comments?](#)
14. [How can I keep up to date on the progress of the application?](#)
15. [When and how will the decision be made?](#)
16. [Where will I be able to see the officer's report?](#)
17. [Can I speak at the council meeting?](#)

Q .1 What is the application for?

Bristol International Airport are seeking outline planning permission for the following:

- **Expansion of the terminal building.** An extension to the east (approximately 6,000 square metres in footprint) and west (approximately 3,500 square metres in footprint) of the existing terminal to just over double its current overall floor area in two distinct phases (see paragraph 1.6.3 below).
- **Western Apron¹ Walkway².** A remodelling of and a two level extension to the recently approved Western Apron Walkway (which was confirmed as permitted development under planning reference number 08/P/2149/LDP and which is due to be constructed in late 2009) providing access to a Western Pier serving a further six aircraft stands³.
- **A two level Eastern Apron Walkway,** including replacement of the existing single storey walkway to stands 1 to 5. The Eastern Apron Walkway will serve eight aircraft stands with passenger pre-board zones adjacent to each stand, including a central gate lounge serving two of

¹ Apron refers to an area of concrete hard standing used for the purpose of parking aircraft.

² Apron Walkway (or Pier) refers to a covered structure for the movement of passengers accessing or egressing aircraft from the terminal building.

³ Aircraft stand refers to an individual parking area on the apron demarcated for a single aircraft.

these stands. The Eastern Apron Walkway also incorporates landside security offices for the issue of security passes to staff and deliveries, with an adjacent vehicle parking area.

- **A two level Eastern Apron Pier** (connected to the Terminal Building by the Eastern Apron Walkway referred to above) serving four aircraft stands.
- **Expansion of the aircraft-parking apron** to provide a total of 33 aircraft stands (compared with 27 aircraft stands available in summer 2008 and 26 aircraft stands to following completion of the Western Walkway permitted development scheme). An extension to the Western Apron to provide six new stands; extension of the Eastern Apron to provide three new aircraft stands and reconfiguration of the existing Eastern Apron is proposed. The layout of the stands will be configured to maximise operational efficiency, whilst minimising ground noise. [KG – the number of additional stands don't seem to be clear]
- **Multi storey car parks.** Two multi-storey car parks, one with four levels and one with five levels, will be located north of the terminal to provide short and long stay parking and facilities for the pick up and set down of passengers. These will have (together) a capacity for approximately 3834 cars. The uppermost floor of one of the car parks will accommodate a transport interchange for use by buses and taxis. The pick up and set down facilities and the transport interchange will replace the existing forecourt and pick up and drop off car park and will configured to meet the latest security requirements for vehicle access to new airport developments.
- **A covered pedestrian link bridge** will connect the transport interchange and multi-storey car park with the terminal building forecourt.
- **New administration building.** A new three-storey administration building, with a gross internal floor area of 4,800 square metres will be constructed just to the north west of the expanded terminal, together with associated staff and visitor car parking.
- **Demolition of the existing administration building.** The current building is considered to offer unsatisfactory facilities for the future operation of the airport, and is located in an area allocated for the eastern apron extension. This building is therefore scheduled for demolition following completion of the new administration building.
- **New aviation fuel storage depot.** A new underground fuel storage depot will be constructed within the vicinity of the western perimeter of the north side car park. This will include the provision of three tanks having a capacity of 1,200 cubic metres each.
- **Demolition of the existing aviation fuel storage facility.** Three of the existing fuel storage tanks will be demolished and removed once the new fuel storage depot has been commissioned. The existing refueller vehicle parking area, fuel dispensing facilities and administration building will

remain and will continue to be used by the aircraft refuelling operation. The existing fuel dispensing facility will be connected to the new fuel storage depot by an underground pipeline.

- **New landside ancillary building.** A two-storey building will be constructed between the new fuel depot and Downside Road, adjacent to the Downside Road entrance to the Airport. The building will provide accommodation for operations in support of airlines and terminal operations.
- **A new Motor Transport facility⁴** to replace the existing building which lies on the site of the proposed flight catering building. The new MT facility will be located against the western boundary of the airfield, to the south of the new flight catering building.
- **A new flight catering building for Gate Gourmet** to replace the existing building immediately to the west of the terminal building, which will be demolished in advance of constructing the western terminal building extension. The new flight catering facility will be located against the western boundary of the airfield, to the north west of the control tower.
- **A new flight catering building for Gate Gourmet.** The north side internal access road layout will be reconfigured to accommodate the new infrastructure and buildings, to improve vehicle circulation through the airport complex, and enhance safety and security.
- **Landside to airside security control post.** A new and enhanced security control post to the west of the terminal building to control vehicle and staff access between the airside and landside parts of the airfield, including security gates and an associated building with security search facilities. This facility will replace the existing control post, which will be lost through the development.
- **Upgraded north side surface car park.** The north side surface car park will be reconfigured to suit the new buildings and road layout and to maximise the use of the area available. This will include the resurfacing of the car park to improve the drainage arrangements.
- **Upgraded north side surface car park.** The Silver Zone car park will be redeveloped and extended to provide long stay car parking for approximately 12,000 cars, of which approximately half will be located in an extension to the airport operational boundary to the south of the airfield. Staff car parking will be located within a dedicated area of the Silver Zone car park. A new reception building will be provided in the centre of the car park and the existing reception facility will be demolished and removed.

⁴ The Motor Transport facility is a workshop for servicing and repair of airport operational vehicles.

The planning application submitted is an outline application. This means that some details have been reserved for submission to the council at a later date. These details are called “reserved matters” and will, subject to outline permission being granted, have to be submitted as part of a formal reserved matters planning application.

Q.2 Where can I see the application?

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

To make it easier for you to view the application and the comments we have received online we have prepared various online files:

- The file where you can view the application is [09/P/1020/OT2](#)
- To view comments from [statutory consultees and other organisations](#)
- To view comments from the general public:

To make it easier for you to find specific comments we have prepared four separated files according to surname:

- For comments from people with [surnames A - E](#)
- For comments from people with [surnames F – K](#)
- For comments from people with [surnames L - Q](#)
- For comments from people with [surnames R - Z](#)

A Paper copy of the application can be viewed at our offices located at Weston-super-Mare (open from 8.45am–5pm Mondays to Thursdays, 8.45am–4.30pm Fridays). Copies of the application can also be viewed at the following locations: -

Clevedon Library, 37 Old Church Road, Clevedon
Portishead Library, High Street, Portishead
Nailsea Library, Somerset Square, Nailsea
Winscombe Library, Woodborough Road, Winscombe

Q.3 How can I obtain more information about Bristol International Airport?

BIA have published details and information about their proposals on the [Bristol International Airport](#) website

Q.4 What is the BIA master plan?

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

The [BIA Master Plan](#) (dated 2006) is a non-statutory planning document prepared by BIA, which sets out what new development is likely to be required at the airport for the period between 2006 –2030

Q.5 How can I learn more about the planning system?

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

The [planning portal](#) is a government run website which contains a wealth of advice and information about the planning system. You can also obtain information about the planning system in North Somerset from our [website](#).

Q.6 Can I have copies of the plans?

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

Paper copies of all the plans and submitted documents can be made available subject to a printing charge. Our copying charges are explained in full on our [website](#).

Q.7 Who has been consulted?

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

Everyone who has an interest in this application is welcome to submit their comments to us. To let people know that the planning application is being considered we have placed adverts in local newspapers and erected site notices. We have also sent notification letters directly to the following people and organizations:

- Local residents and businesses near to the airport
- All parish and town councils in North Somerset
- Local members of parliament
- All statutory consultees
- Other interested parties.

A full list of who we have consulted will be displayed on our website.

Q.8 How can I find out what my parish or town council thinks?

You may discuss this application with your town or parish council. If you would like your views to be taken into account by your town or parish council, or you would like to attend the meeting where they discuss this application, please contact them directly.

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

Q.9 How can I submit my comments?

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

If you have any comments on this proposal, please send them to us by no later than 13 August 2009. If we do not receive your comments by this date then they may not be taken into account in determining the application. To send us your comments you can either:

1. Submit your comments online via our website at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/
2. Email them direct to us at biacomments@n-somerset.gov.uk (we cannot accept unusually large emails of 20Mb or more).
3. Post your comments to us.

Please submit your comments to us online if you can or via email. If you do choose to post us a letter, you must include your name and postal address if you want your comments to be taken into account but you do not need to include your telephone number or signature. Please also include the application number quoted above.

Q.10 Do I have to write in again if I sent in comments for the master plan?

Yes. We are not allowed to consider comments that were submitted in relation to a separate proposal or application.

Q.11 How much time do I have to submit my comments?

Given the large amount of public interest in this application we have extended our normal consultation period from 21 days to 6 weeks. Therefore, the date by which we need to receive your comments is 13 August 2009.

Q.12 How do I know if you have received my comments?

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

Due to the exceptionally large volume of correspondence that we will receive about this planning application, we will not reply individually to comments made, nor will we send you an acknowledgment letter. However, you can check that your comments have been received by visiting our website. Please note that whilst we aim to post comments on our website within five working days, we may take a little longer during periods of high workloads. Once the application has been decided we will announce this on our website.

Q.13 What happens to my comments?

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

Under access to information legislation all correspondence relating to planning applications is made available for public inspection and will also be made

available for public viewing on our website. You should bear this in mind when writing any comments and deciding what information to include. You should not make any comments which are defamatory or offensive or which might give rise to legal proceedings against you.

When your correspondence is posted on our website we aim to remove any signatures, email addresses or telephone numbers to protect your privacy **(if you submit your comments via the council's website, please do not include your telephone number as it will be automatically displayed on the website).**

Anonymous comments cannot be taken into account therefore names and addresses will be made available for public viewing on our website. By sending your comments you confirm that you agree to this. Additional information regarding our data protection procedures can be found at <http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/Environment/planning/searchandsubmit/tsandcs.htm>

Q.14 How can I keep up-to-date on the progress of the application?

Before the application is decided, we will publish on our website any additional documents or plans that we receive from the applicant together with relevant comments that we have received from statutory consultees. We will also announce on our website the date when the application will be considered by a council committee and, following this committee, the decision made.

Q.15 When and how will the decision be made?

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

This application will be decided by a committee of elected councillors. At a council committee meeting (the date of which is yet to be determined) a report prepared by professional planning officers will be made available. This report will consider the relevant issues and recommend what decision the council should make. The councillors will be free to accept or reject this recommendation when making their decision. The reasons for the decision will be set out in full. At any time during the determination of the application by this council the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government has the power to call it in to be decided by government. If it is called in then North Somerset Council will no longer be the determining authority and the application will be decided by the secretary of state following a public inquiry. More information about the secretary of state's office can be obtained by visiting their [website](#).

If the council decides to refuse the application then the applicant can submit an appeal against the decision. An independent inspector appointed by the secretary of state will hear the appeal. More information about the appeal process can be found by visiting the planning inspectorate [website](#).

Q.16 Where will I be able to see the officer's report?

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

The officer's report will be available to view on this website before the council meeting when the application is considered.

Q.17 Can I speak at the council meeting?

[\(Back to Top\)](#)

Yes, for no more than three minutes. But only two speakers are normally allowed on any one planning application. Therefore, if you are one of a number of objectors, a spokesperson will have to be agreed. If agreement cannot be made, the chairman of the committee will select the person who first notified the committee clerk of their wish to speak. Alternatively, more speakers may be allowed with each having less time to speak.

If you wish to speak you must make your request in writing by letter, fax or email to the clerk of the committee indicating your request to speak and detailing the planning application. You must include your name and address and it must be received by noon on the day before the meeting. Further information can be found in our advice note, Public Speaking on Planning Applications, or by contacting the council's democratic services team on 01275 888 888.