

Report to the Council

Subject: Asset Management and Economic Development Portfolio **Date:** 31 July 2012

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Anne Grigg

Recommending:

That the report of the Asset Management and Economic Development Portfolio Holder be noted.

North Weald Airfield

As we approach the Olympic Games, all arrangements for the use of the location as a Park and Ride facility for the White Water Centre have been satisfactorily concluded. There will be no interference with the normal operation of the Airfield nor the Saturday market. On a similar theme, there will be stricter aviation controls in the airspace above and around the Airfield during the Olympic Games. This is part of the overall airspace management of the South East during the Games. The Airfield's Operation Team are ready to operate these additional controls.

Officers are currently engaged in procuring a specialist company to advise the Council on the condition of the main runway. Whatever the longer term nature of aviation at the Airfield turns out to be, it is critical to the safe operation of the Airfield that the main runway is checked periodically and maintained appropriately.

I would like to take this opportunity to advise Members of the special two day event at the Airfield scheduled for the weekend of the 8/9 September. As well as embracing the normal community engagement weekend, this will be a special occasion to honour those Norwegians who were based at the Airfield during the Battle of Britain. It will be a fun and interesting event for all the family and I hope that you will put the dates in your diary. More details will be made available to Members and the public nearer to the event weekend.

Depot Relocations

With my Cabinet colleagues I am continuing to review the position regarding the requirement to relocate the users of the current Langston Road depot to alternative locations, to facilitate the proposed redevelopment of the Langston Road depot site. This is a very complex issue involving a wide range of services and one which also impacts upon the nature of the Council's next waste management contract. I will report further as matters progress.