

BELFAST  
CITY  
AIRPORT



# Belfast City Airport draft Master Plan

Consultation Report 2025

BROWN / O'CONNOR  
COMMUNICATIONS

# Contents

|                                                        |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----|
| 1. Introduction .....                                  | 3  |
| 2. Consultation in Numbers .....                       | 6  |
| 3. Purpose of the draft Master Plan consultation ..... | 7  |
| 4. Consultation Approach .....                         | 8  |
| 5. Draft Master Plan Launch .....                      | 12 |
| 6. Community Engagement Events .....                   | 19 |
| 7. Media Coverage.....                                 | 25 |
| 8. Testimonials .....                                  | 26 |
| 9. Overview of Consultation Feedback.....              | 31 |
| 10. Questionnaire - Breakdown of Responses .....       | 34 |
| 11. Key Themes and Responses .....                     | 54 |
| 12. Appendices .....                                   | 71 |



# Introduction

**The analysis undertaken to inform the Belfast City Airport draft Master Plan suggests that the market for air travel to and from the island of Ireland is forecast to double from just over 45 million passengers per annum in 2024 to around 90 million passengers per annum by 2040.**

Northern Ireland's airports will need to handle around 21 million of these passengers per annum with Belfast City Airport critical to meeting this demand. It is forecast that Belfast City Airport will reach 7 million passengers per annum over the Master Plan period.

While domestic UK travel will still account for over 60% of business by 2040 at Belfast City Airport, the majority of the growth will come from improved connections to Great Britain, European hubs, global cities, as well as leisure destinations.

To meet this demand, airlines will need to base more aircraft at Belfast City Airport. The required growth at Belfast City will support the Northern Ireland Executive's Programme for Government objectives, which include the plan to create a high-performing competitive economy, tackling disadvantage, promoting inclusion and delivering on climate change aims.

Work towards a specific Belfast City Airport Master Plan aligns with UK aviation policy which encourages airports to have a Master Plan in place to inform stakeholders about long-term plans and allow them to be taken into account.

There is no existing aviation strategy for Northern Ireland (at the time of publication of this report); however, it is understood that the Department for the Economy (DfE) is currently preparing one. It is expected that any such strategy will take the Belfast City Airport Master Plan into account.

The draft Belfast City Airport Master Plan, on which the airport has consulted, is a follow-up to its previous 2006 publication which outlined development aspirations up to 2030.

In September 2025, Belfast City Airport launched its draft Master Plan at Parliament Buildings, Stormont, outlining

how the airport plans to respond to and accommodate growing demand for air travel over the next 15 years.



Copies of the draft Master Plan document and feedback questionnaires that were available at the community engagement events

This was the first draft Master Plan for Belfast City Airport in over 19 years, addressing the need for a forward plan to support greater levels of connectivity and economic prosperity in Northern Ireland.

The draft Master Plan consultation opened to the public on Tuesday 16th September 2025 and ran until Tuesday 11th November 2025, providing an 8-week period for engagement and feedback.

As part of that process, Brown O'Connor Communications was commissioned to prepare this consultation report to help shape and support the publication of the final Master Plan.

This report describes how the process was curated and delivered, and summarises the feedback received from all those consulted. It aims to identify key themes that have emerged from this programme of engagement and provides answers to concerns which may have arisen during this activity.

In this period of listening, Belfast City Airport received feedback from a wide range of stakeholders which included Members of Parliament (MPs), Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs), Councillors, local government officials, local residents, businesses, passengers, airlines, trade bodies, tourism organisations, non-governmental organisations and non-departmental public bodies.

Prior to the launch of the draft Master Plan, Belfast City Airport management engaged with over 60 key stakeholders to introduce the needs case for growth, and the key principles of the draft Master Plan.

A total of **376** responses to the draft Master Plan were received. Of these, 313 were submitted through the online survey, 43 were provided as written feedback, and 20 were received in other formats.

**619** passengers took part in an in-terminal survey as they passed through the airport (departing) between 24th October and 11th November 2025.

**96 hours** of consultation time was dedicated to this exercise.

**72%** of public consultation respondents and **95%** of passengers surveyed in-terminal stated they were supportive of the airport's proposals outlined in the Draft Master Plan.

Over **two-thirds** of respondents were supportive of the principle of more flexibility with Belfast City Airport's operating hours, beyond 21:30, but not beyond 23:59.

Nearly **3,000** visitors logged on to the dedicated draft Master Plan website over the 8-week period, accessed directly via the web address or via the QR code.

In general, responses offered a positive and supportive view of development and an understanding of the context of the growth plan, in particular, the need to prepare for future demand, expanded capacity, and the positive economic benefits that would be unlocked. Around 75% of the overall responses to the consultation were

supportive of its aims and the proposals it contained.

Many of the trade bodies and business membership organisations that engaged prior to and during the consultation period regard Belfast City Airport as a 'lifeline for market access', 'entrepreneurship', 'export growth' and 'foreign direct investment'.

One respondent stated:

*"The delivery of the ambition outlined in this draft Master Plan will serve as a catalyst, accelerating economic growth, boosting jobs, attracting investment, and strengthening Belfast's position as a connected, competitive city. The contribution that Belfast City Airport makes to local business, tourism and the community is significant. Connectivity is critical to Belfast's economic success and the airport is a strategic economic asset that our members and wider society rely on as a lifeline for commerce and business. Belfast is a city on the rise and that requires Belfast City Airport to be ready to help us unlock our future potential in the next decade and beyond."*

Questionnaire feedback responses showed that 60% of the respondents "strongly support" the principle of airport growth, rising to 74% support overall when combined with those who 'support' the proposals. Similarly, 78% of respondents "support" or "strongly support" the airport's role in meeting Northern Ireland's future connectivity needs, (18% "strongly support" / 60% "support") and 79% of respondents agree that the associated economic and social benefits are significant.

Support for sustainability measures is also high, with 78% of respondents endorsing the airport's proposed net-zero and green transport initiatives, and 79% of respondents supporting bold changes to improve greener access.

In parallel, a minority of respondents continued to raise environmental concerns, with 22% reporting they are "very concerned" about potential impacts and 14% "somewhat concerned".

These findings indicate broad public endorsement of the draft Master Plan's ambitions, while underscoring the need for continued transparency, robust mitigation measures, and ongoing engagement as plans advance.

Responses also included some concerns about noise impacts from aircraft, extensions to operating hours and

general environmental impacts, mainly by those living closest to the airport campus.

Around 21% of those who completed the feedback questionnaires were opposed to the principle of growth at Belfast City Airport (“strongly oppose” or “oppose”), with some responses highlighting issues outside the control of the airport or not referenced in the draft Master Plan. These issues include global climate change; perceived devaluation of local property prices; interest in re-opening of the Knockmore rail line.

Whilst the majority of respondents took the opportunity to provide feedback via the questionnaire feedback format, 5% of overall respondents provided written direct feedback as their method of response, that is, not via the structured feedback questionnaire or online, via the dedicated website.

In one particular case, the response from Belfast City Airport Watch states that it is an umbrella group representing ‘10 residents’ groups’. A direct written response was received from the group which stated:

*“Our interest in your expansion plans centre on the noise and disturbance caused by or likely to be caused by an increase in aircraft movements and the introduction of scheduled flights after the 21.30 deadline.”*

*“We have no objection to BCA operating in a responsible manner as a commuter and business airport within the parameters set out by the Public Inquiry. It is also a matter for you what you spend on improvements to terminals, rail connections, hotels or car parking.”*

The feedback provided on the draft Master Plan provides important input into the final Master Plan which will be published in association with this consultation report.

## 2. Consultation in Numbers

**8**

**WEEK  
CONSULTATION  
PERIOD**

**110**

**PEOPLE ATTENDED  
DROP IN EVENTS  
ACROSS THE CITY**

**313**

**ONLINE  
RESPONSES**

**43**

**WRITTEN  
FEEDBACK  
RESPONSES**

**619**

**IN-TERMINAL  
SURVEYS**

**75,000**

**COMMUNITY  
NEWSLETTERS  
DISTRIBUTED**

**2,687**

**CONSULTATION  
WEBSITE VIEWS**



# Purpose

## of the draft Master Plan consultation

**UK Government guidance recommends that airports develop and periodically review Master Plans due to the strategic importance of air connectivity.**

This is not only to ensure there is support for future economic growth and capacity, but for regulatory and stakeholder alignment, and environmental and social responsibility.

Master Plans are produced to inform stakeholders of future plans due to the fact that they are major transport infrastructure assets. A draft Master Plan is not a statutory document nor a planning application.

There is no formal process for preparing or consulting on an airport Master Plan, but it is recommended that airports undertake stakeholder engagement prior to publication of any Master Plan and that they engage widely with local communities.

The consultation on the Belfast City Airport draft Master Plan served as an important mechanism to inform decision-making in the development of the long-term vision for the airport.

While the Belfast City Airport draft Master Plan was a non-statutory document, it was necessary that a comprehensive consultation accompanied its publication, engaging early with interested stakeholders in shaping the Belfast City Airport Master Plan final vision.

As part of this consultation process, government guidance on consultations relating to airports or significant developments was used as a baseline, with activity going well beyond the stated legal requirements. All activity was aligned to UK and NI government policy and guidance drawn from the:

- Department for Infrastructure, The Planning (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2025 Statutory Rule.
- Department for Transport, Aviation Policy Framework 2013.

Both digital and in-person event guidance was exceeded by the Belfast City Airport consultation process, ensuring that all interested parties and stakeholders understood not only the detail of the proposals, but the reasons for them. This consultation process delivered:

- An extensive digital footprint with a detailed website and connected social media channels
- Three in-person community engagement events in relevant locations in Belfast and North Down
- Extensive advertising on social media and via paid advertisements in the national NI media
- Extensive stakeholder engagement with business leaders and elected representatives



CGI of potential multi-modal forecourt, as shown during draft Master Plan consultation process



# Consultation Approach

This section provides a summary of the engagement methods used during the consultation process, guided by best practice principles. The consultation approach sought to inform, educate, and engage, inviting feedback from the general public and stakeholders on Belfast City Airport's emerging draft Master Plan proposals.

The public consultation exercise ran for an 8-week period, between 16th September and 11th November 2025, with the following objectives:

**Clearly communicate the vision of the draft Master Plan in an easy-to-understand and accessible way**

**Provide opportunities for all interested parties to share feedback, with a variety of methods available to submit information**

**Use the feedback gathered to help shape the final Master Plan proposals**

To achieve these objectives, the following communications methods and engagement touchpoints were used:

**In-person community engagement events, hosted by airport representatives alongside design team technical experts**

**A dedicated consultation website**

**Face-to-face surveying of passengers**

**A dedicated mailbox address at the airport for postal feedback**

The three in-person community engagement events were held during October 2025, focusing on the areas within the immediate vicinity of Belfast City Airport. These events concentrated attention on local communities situated under, or near, regular flight paths of departing and arriving aircraft.

The dedicated consultation website served as a comprehensive digital resource for those unable to attend any of the in-person events, enabling access to detailed information on the draft Master Plan and the ability to submit feedback directly to the airport team.

Passenger feedback gathered by in-terminal surveys conducted by an independent market research agency, Cognisense, also played an important role in shaping this consultation report. The input of the respondents was valuable, not only because of their interest in the airport's development, but also because many passengers are likely to live within the airport's core catchment area and may hold views on its impact and future potential.

# Engagement Principles

Belfast City Airport took every effort to ensure the widest possible awareness of the draft Master Plan, its proposals, and community engagement events.

This gave an extensive range of stakeholders and the general public multiple opportunities to provide feedback, within a clearly defined period of time.

The public consultation period provided a window of opportunity to listen to, and understand, community views across multiple locations, using a variety of accessible and easy-to-understand methods and activities.

*“As we move forward from today, your feedback and the feedback from the wider public is vital in the next stage of this proposed Master Plan.*

*Consultation will play a vital role in hearing what people think and feel about the proposals.*

*We are making every effort to allow for that important engagement over the next 8 weeks, with our dedicated Master Plan consultation website and in person events across the city and north Down during October.”*

**Matthew Hall, CEO, Belfast City Airport  
at the draft Master Plan launch**

## Pre-Consultation Activity

Prior to the publication of the draft Master Plan, Belfast City Airport engaged with a wide range (60+ individuals) of political representatives, business organisations and civic leaders in advance of the more formal consultative process, to ensure they were informed of the intention of Belfast City Airport in bringing forward its draft Master Plan.

## Belfast City Airport Consultative Forum

Prior to the publication of the draft Master Plan, Belfast City Airport’s Consultative Forum was briefed on both the consultation process and the detail of the draft Master Plan.

## Airlines

During the consultation process on the draft Master Plan, Belfast City Airport also engaged directly with airline partners to provide an overview of the draft Master Plan and seek views.

## Draft Master Plan

The draft Master Plan was the central document at the heart of the consultation and engagement process.

Over 250 hard copies were printed for distribution, while a digital version remained permanently available to view and download on the dedicated consultation website.

**The document outlined a long-term vision for the airport, including information on:**

- Future passenger demand forecasts
- A potential private investment of up to £200m in the airport campus, including an extended terminal building and new aircraft stands
- Transformational surface access facilities including a new forecourt and the opportunity to become the first rail connected airport on the island
- The associated economic and social benefits of delivering the Master Plan by 2040
- Key environmental considerations and operating controls
- Implications of failing to meet demand
- Information on the consultation process





The Master Plan presents opportunities to:



**TRANSFORM PUBLIC TRANSPORT**  
and provide new rail link



**ACCELERATE SUSTAINABILITY AMBITIONS**  
including net zero and onsite renewables



**DELIVER EMPLOYMENT ACADEMY**  
with more apprenticeships

## Executive Summary

### SUSTAINABILITY AT THE HEART OF OUR MASTER PLAN

We recently published a new Sustainability Strategy. Progress has already been made and this draft Master Plan will allow us to further improve our performance, including the potential to meet our net zero target for airport operations up to 10 years earlier than previously planned. We will also take the opportunity to increase onsite renewables and work with our industry partners to support the future decarbonisation of flight.

### ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Preliminary Environmental Report (PER) that is published alongside this draft Master Plan covers a wide range of topics. The draft Master Plan focuses on the main environmental considerations, including noise impacts.

**The move to new generation aircraft means that all forecast growth can be accommodated within our existing noise contour area limit.**

Current operations mean air pollutants are well within UK government expectations and with improvements to our operations (such as the introduction of electric power to aircraft from all our stands), and changes to the type of services using our routes, any increase in concentrations will be very small and will remain well below any limits. We are committed to reducing the carbon emissions from our own operations by 2040 (we have already achieved a 41% reduction since 2019). For emissions from flights, UK policy is clear that it should be considered at a national level and the UK's Net Zero Strategy is aimed at delivery of net zero for air travel by 2050, without limiting passenger growth.

### IMPLICATIONS OF FAILING TO MEET DEMAND

If Belfast City is not able to meet growth in passenger demand, there will be consequences for Northern Ireland's ability to improve its domestic and international air connectivity to support economic growth whilst keeping fares low.

This would hinder ambitions to improve economic productivity, increase foreign direct investment, increase tourism and create more jobs through activity at the airport.

### HAVE YOUR SAY

Consultation has now commenced on the draft Master Plan and runs for 8 weeks to 11 November 2025.

You can view more details on the consultation website at: [belfastcityairport.com/vision](https://belfastcityairport.com/vision)

You can also meet with members of the Master Plan team in person at one of the forthcoming community engagement events during October.

**All feedback will be considered ahead of publishing our final Master Plan early next year.**

## Our Location at the Heart of Belfast

Belfast and Northern Ireland are growing and our links to the rest of the UK and Europe are critical to this. Belfast has delivered an incredible social and economic recovery over the last two decades.

The improved political climate has created the opportunity to develop a broader based economy, in addition to the traditional industrial and manufacturing profile.

The airport is located within Belfast Harbour Estate, which provides essential maritime access to Britain, Europe and the rest of the world.

**The port and airport combined create a gateway location that provides a critical economic function for Northern Ireland, facilitating the movement of goods and people for both business and leisure by sea and air.**



**Technology**  
Belfast is one of the Top 10 Tech Cities in the UK

**Conference and Performance**  
Belfast is home to a diverse mix of modern conference facilities and holding performance venues that cater to a wide range of events.

**Creative Industry**  
From major TV and film productions to augmented reality, Belfast's creative industry is making its mark globally.

**Top 10 Friendliest Cities**  
Voted one of the Top 10 friendliest cities in the UK (Condé Nast 'Traveler Reader' Choice 2024).

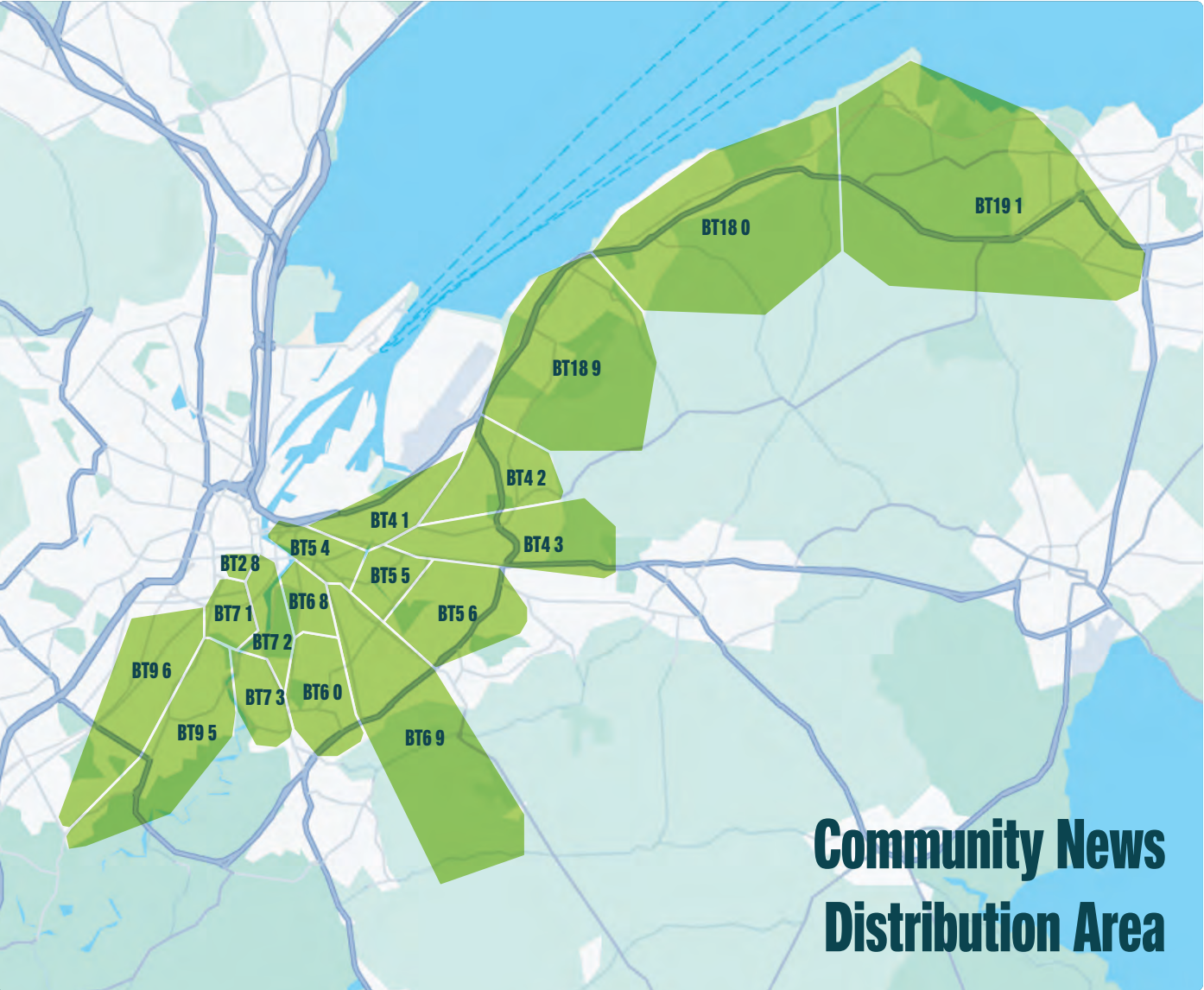
**Skilled Workforce**  
As one of the youngest cities in Europe, Belfast is brimming with a highly skilled, entrepreneurial workforce.

**Research**  
Belfast is the second fastest growing knowledge economy in the UK and home to globally recognised research centres.

# Community News

During the consultation period a special edition of Belfast City Airport’s *Community News* was developed to inform local residents about the publication of the draft Master Plan and to invite them to attend one of the three community engagement events and / or visit the dedicated consultation website for more information on the draft Master Plan and to provide feedback.

Belfast City Airport *Community News* was distributed to 75,000 households in postcode areas within the vicinity of the airport. Those postcode areas in which *Community News* was issued are outlined below.



**Community News  
Distribution Area**



# Draft Master Plan Launch

On Tuesday 16th September, Belfast City Airport's draft Master Plan was launched at a special event in the Long Gallery, Parliament Buildings, Stormont, with over 100 guests attending.



Launch of the draft Master Plan at Parliament Buildings



Declan Collier, Chair, Matthew Hall, CEO and Tim Halley, Chief Development Officer of Belfast City Airport at the draft Master Plan launch event

This high-profile event attracted significant interest from across Northern Ireland's political, public and civic sectors, including NI Executive Ministers, MPs, MLAs, Councillors, and senior officials from government departments. Representatives from key business, transport and non-governmental organisations attended alongside community stakeholders and the leadership of a range of industry groups.

Collectively, the launch event and the corresponding media coverage provided strong visibility for the publication of the draft Master Plan and set the foundation for the consultation period that started on the day of the launch.

The event was addressed by a range of high-profile individuals including:

- **First Minister, Michelle O'Neill MLA**
- **deputy First Minister, Emma Little-Pengelly MLA**
- **Ellvena Graham OBE, Chair, Tourism NI**
- **Angela McGowan, Regional Director, Confederation of British Industry (CBI)**

In attendance at the event were several NI Executive Ministers, over 30 MLAs from across the five main political parties, and 26 organisations represented from business, tourism, hospitality, transport, local government and the Northern Ireland Office.



Angela McGowan speaking at the draft Master Plan Launch



Ellvena Graham OBE speaking at the draft Master Plan Launch



deputy First Minister Emma Little-Pengelly MLA addresses the crowd at the draft Master Plan launch

## Display Information

On display at the launch in Parliament Buildings, a series of 14 exhibition boards provided detailed information on:

- The draft proposals and new proposed layout
- The economic benefits that could potentially be unlocked by the delivery of the draft Master Plan
- The airport's sustainability measures
- An overview of Belfast City Airport's current operations
- The positive impact Belfast City Airport has in the community
- The need to meet the increasing passenger demand and the potential implications of failing to meet this demand
- Information on how to provide feedback on the proposals

The exhibition boards featured imagery and visuals to illustrate how the airport campus and surrounding infrastructure could look following the implementation of the draft Master Plan proposals. These images included:

- An overview of the entire airport campus with additional aircraft stands and piers
- Upgraded multi-modal transport forecourt
- A new airport terminal building with convenience retail and potential location of a new hotel
- The potential connecting bridge to a new rail halt directly serving the terminal

Guests viewed the exhibition boards during the two-hour event, which was held on a plenary day (sitting day) at the NI Assembly. The launch coincided with the NI Assembly official plenary lunch break, enabling engagement from MLAs, who had the opportunity to review the proposals and provide feedback on the day to airport representatives.

Feedback questionnaires were made available to guests at the event, alongside copies of the draft Master Plan document.



First Minister Michelle O'Neill MLA addresses the crowd at the draft Master Plan launch

## Launch of the 8-week consultation

The event at Parliament Buildings offered a highly visible opportunity to launch the start of the consultation period on the draft Master Plan.

During the event, Belfast City Airport's Chief Executive outlined the consultation timeframe, dates and locations of the three community engagement events and details of the dedicated website for submitting feedback online. This information was also shared across all press releases and social media channels.

All guests at the launch event were offered the chance to provide feedback via questionnaires after viewing the exhibition boards and draft Master Plan document.



First and deputy First Minister alongside Matthew Hall, CEO of Belfast City Airport



Rob McConnell, CEO of BWUH ICC Belfast provides feedback at the draft Master Plan Launch

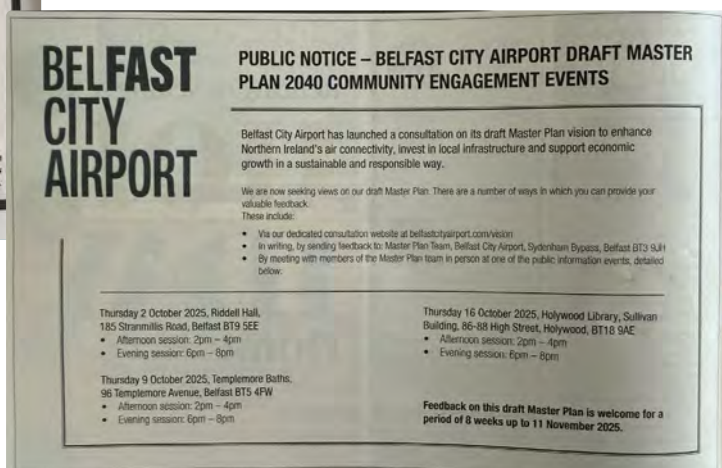


[L to R] Tim Halley, Chief Development Officer Belfast City Airport, Claire Guinness, Chief Executive Belfast Chamber and Anna McKelvey, Head of Marketing at Belfast City Airport

## Advertisements



To announce the commencement of the consultation period and associated community engagement events, Belfast City Airport implemented a programme of paid advertising and paid public notices with the dedicated draft Master Plan branding and visual identity. This activity ensured consistency of messaging and reached audiences across multiple platforms.



# Media engagement

A range of media interviews (TV, radio, newsprint) were carried out by the Chief Executive of Belfast City Airport, with the publication of the draft Master Plan gaining widespread coverage across all major daily Northern Ireland media.

The press release also carried several supportive quotes, namely from Belfast Chamber and Hospitality Ulster. They included:

Clare Guinness, Chief Executive of Belfast Chamber:

***“The contribution that Belfast City Airport makes to local business, tourism and the community is significant. Connectivity is critical to Belfast’s economic success, and the airport is a strategic economic asset that our members and wider society rely on as a lifeline for commerce and business. Belfast is a city on the rise and that requires the City Airport to be ready to help us unlock our future potential in the next decade and beyond.”***



Colin Neill, Chief Executive of Hospitality Ulster:

***“Greater air connectivity is central to making sure we can attract more visitors to spend more time here in Northern Ireland. The hospitality sector is the backbone of the tourism economy and hospitality business owners work hard to deliver our world-class offer.***

***“We welcome future investment and enhanced capacity at Belfast City Airport as this will have a direct positive impact in bringing more visitors to sample our world-class pubs, restaurants and attractions, staying longer and spending more.***

***“We look forward to seeing the potential development of the airport strengthening our reputation as a destination of choice for visitors from GB, Europe and the rest of the world.”***



## Social Media

On the day of the draft Master Plan launch, video footage was captured at the event. This was edited into a short 2-minute highlights package and posted across all Belfast City Airport social media channels.

The video featured interviews with attendees and elected representatives, each providing initial reflections on the draft Master Plan proposals.

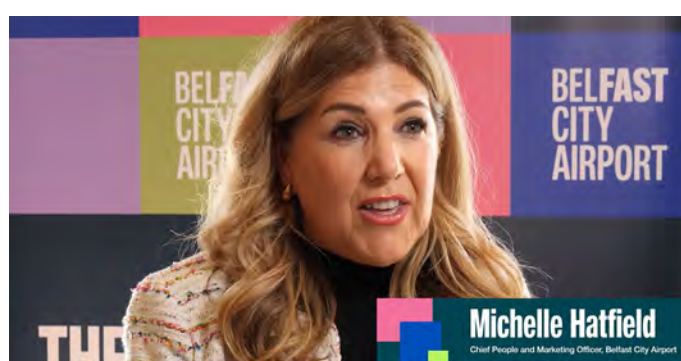


# Supporter Testimonials

Prior to the draft Master Plan launch event, seven key individuals from high-profile organisations were asked to provide their views on the draft Master Plan. Supportive testimonials were recorded from:

1. Belfast Chamber of Commerce and Trade
2. Queen's University Belfast
3. Allstate NI
4. Business in the Community NI
5. Federation of Small Businesses NI
6. Invest NI
7. Hospitality Ulster

These videos, captured on an individual basis, were published on the Belfast City Airport social media channels from 16th September 2025, throughout the consultation period.



# Infographics Published

On the day of the draft Master Plan launch, an infographic was published on the Belfast City Airport social media channels, outlining the times, locations and various methods available to respond to the consultation process.

The information contained within this consultation infographic aligned to the information supplied in the advertisements in the national media throughout the consultation period.

## Community Engagement Events



Thursday  
2 October 2025  
2pm-4pm  
6pm-8pm  
Riddell Hall, QUB,  
South Belfast



Thursday  
9 October 2025  
2pm-4pm  
6pm-8pm  
Templemore Baths,  
East Belfast



Thursday  
16 October 2025  
2pm-4pm  
6pm-8pm  
Hollywood Library,  
North Down

# The Executive Office Press Release

On the day of the draft Master Plan launch, a press release was published by The Executive Office via the Executive Information Service (EIS) to a wide range of media outlets supporting the publication of the draft Master Plan.

The press release stated that the First Minister and deputy First Minister “welcomed the plans to transform and grow Belfast City Airport into 2040”.

The First Minister, Michelle O'Neill MLA stated:

***“Belfast City Airport is more than just a gateway it is a major part of our economy. It supports hundreds of jobs, boosts local businesses and helps drive tourism.”***

***“This Master Plan shows great ambition and a really bold vision for the future. I look forward to seeing how this next chapter unfolds and the positive impact it will have on our people, visitors and generations to come.”***



The deputy First Minister, Emma Little-Pengelly MLA stated:

***“The Belfast City Airport Master Plan has the potential to deliver huge benefits for Northern Ireland. Growing a globally and sustainable economy is a priority for us and this plan aligns seamlessly with this as it will drive connectivity and support future economic growth. It will also strengthen our tourism sector, support employment and reinforce Northern Ireland’s position as a great place to work, live, visit and invest in.”***



# Community Engagement Events

During the consultation period, members of the public were able to access information on the draft Master Plan in several ways.

This included a series of in-person community engagement events hosted across Belfast and North Down, providing an opportunity to speak to representatives of Belfast City Airport and its wider technical team; view the information boards; seek any clarification and provide feedback.



Attendees were also encouraged to take hard copies of the draft Master Plan and questionnaire, allowing them to review the content in greater detail and submit their responses prior to the conclusion of the consultation period on 11th November.

A fly-through video was also on display at each of the events which showed computer-generated images of what the airport campus and surrounding infrastructure could look like by 2040.

The events took place in accessible locations, close to residential areas and the local community, particularly in areas overflowed by aircraft. The event locations were selected to be within easy reach of where people live and work, and open at times to allow for afternoon and evening viewing and engagement.

14 exhibition boards were on display and copies of the draft Master Plan and the consultation feedback questionnaire were distributed widely at each event.

The exhibition boards on display provided attendees with an overview of the information contained in the draft Master Plan document. Guests were invited to share their feedback via a questionnaire, which included open text boxes for those wishing to provide additional comments. Feedback was actively encouraged during these events.





## Community Engagement events took place at



**Riddel Hall**  
185 Stranmillis Road,  
Belfast BT9 5EE.

Thursday 2 October 2025,  
14:00 to 16:00, 18:00 to 20:00

14 people attended.

**Templemore Baths**  
96 Templemore Avenue,  
Belfast BT5 4FW.

Thursday 9 October 2025,  
14:00 to 16:00, 18:00 to 20:00

27 people attended.

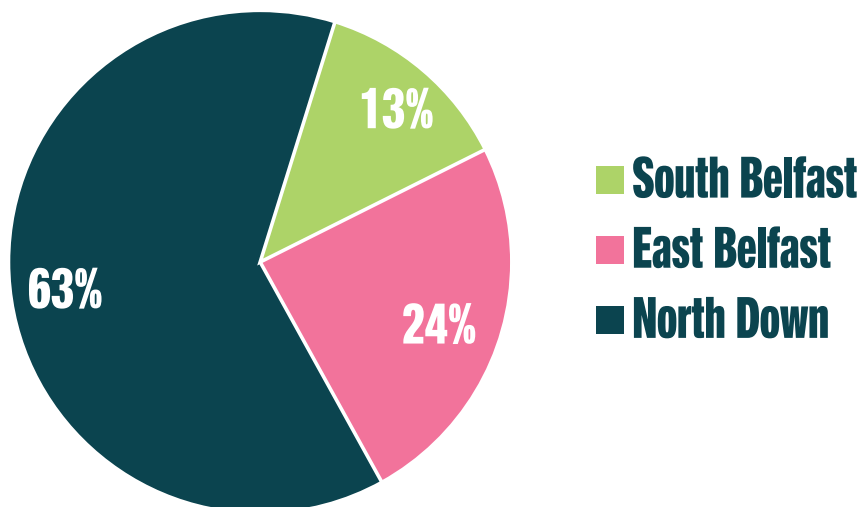
**Hollywood Library  
Sullivan Building**  
86-88 High Street,  
Hollywood BT18 9AE.

Thursday 16 October 2025  
14:00 to 16:00, 18:00 to 20:00

69 people attended.

# Number of Attendees

A total of 110 guests attended the three engagement events. This was broken down as follows:



Attendees included Members of Parliament, Members of the Legislative Assembly, Councillors, representatives of local sporting, civic and business organisations, members of Belfast City Airport Watch, as well as individual local residents.



David Brooks MLA and Cllr Brian Smyth speak with Lindsay Millar, Belfast City Airport Corporate Affairs Manager



# Public Advertisements

Every effort was made to publicise the community engagement events well ahead of the consultation period, using both traditional media and social media platforms to give notice of the consultation period, dates, times and locations of the community engagement events, and information on the format of these events. A summary of the advertising methods is outlined below:

## Print Media

Paid advertisements specifically on the community engagement events were placed in:

- Belfast Telegraph
- Irish News
- Bangor Spectator
- Ambition Magazine (Magazine of the NI Chamber of Commerce)
- North Belfast and Andersonstown News (Belfast Media Group)
- Ulster Business Magazine
- Business Eye



**BELFAST CITY AIRPORT**  
**DRAFT MASTER PLAN 2040**  
*Have Your Say*

*Investing in Northern Ireland's Connectivity and Prosperity*

Belfast City Airport has published its draft Master Plan 2040 – a long-term vision for how the airport can grow sustainably while supporting Northern Ireland's economy, connectivity, and community. The plan sets out proposals for how we can contribute more to jobs, investment, and transport links while continuing to operate within our existing noise contour.

**By 2040, our draft Master Plan will:**

- Contribute**  
£1.7 BILLION  
to the Northern Ireland economy annually
- ENABLE DELIVERY**  
of the Programme for Government
- Create**  
1,100+ new jobs at the airport
- Unlock a potential**  
£200 MILLION PRIVATE INVESTMENT
- ENHANCE AIR CONNECTIVITY**  
to key UK and European destinations
- TRANSFORM PUBLIC TRANSPORT**  
and explore new rail link opportunity

*We want your views*

A public consultation on our draft Master Plan 2040 is now underway until 11th November 2025. Your feedback will shape the airport's future, strengthen the economy, and support our community.

Visit our dedicated consultation website at [belfastcityairport.com/vision](https://belfastcityairport.com/vision)

Have your say! Scan the QR code to provide feedback

## Social Media and Online

A total of 71 social media updates were posted about the draft Master Plan across Belfast City Airport's social media channels and community engagement events in a timely manner — in many cases up to a week in advance, the day before, or the day of each event to remind the public and to welcome them along. Specifically, these posts included:



- 24 posts on Facebook**
- 4 posts on Instagram**
- 24 posts on LinkedIn**
- 19 posts on Twitter/X**



**Belfast City Airport**  
14 Oct • 📍

North Down 📍

We'd love to hear your thoughts on our draft Master Plan. Join us at our Community Engagement Event on Thursday 16th October to have your say!

To find out more about our vision for the future, visit:  
<https://bit.ly/OurVisionForTheFuture>



**North Down**  
**HAVE YOUR SAY!**  
**DRAFT MASTER PLAN 2040**

**Belfast City Airport's vision for the future.**  
Share your views and help us shape the future of Belfast City Airport.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT**

**16 OCT**  
Thursday 16 October 2025  
2pm-4pm & 6pm-8pm  
Hollywood Library, North Down

You will be able to submit written feedback at this event

Visit the dedicated consultation website:  
[belfastcityairport.com/vision](https://belfastcityairport.com/vision)

**BELFAST CITY AIRPORT**

## Consultation Website

Launched on 16th September 2025, the dedicated website ([www.belfastcityairport.com/vision](http://www.belfastcityairport.com/vision)) went live to coincide with the opening of the consultation period. The website carried information on the vision contained within the draft Master Plan and a link to the digital version of the document; details of the three community engagement events; and a 'have your say' section containing a secure online feedback form.

**During the consultation period, the website had nearly 3,000 visitors.**

On 12th November 2025, a message was posted on the website to inform visitors that the consultation period had closed and that this consultation report would be published alongside the final Master Plan early in 2026.



## QR Code

At each consultation event, a QR code was made available on the information boards linking to the consultation website. This offered access to all the information supplied in the hard copy document and access to the questionnaire. The QR code was also displayed in the Belfast City Airport terminal.

This QR code was accessed 209 times throughout the consultation period.

## Invitations to elected representatives

**Prior to each of the community engagement events, the consultation team invited all relevant MPs, MLAs and Councillors based in each of the respective constituencies and council electoral wards. Correspondence was made by email and phone.**

Event reminders were also communicated via email and phone. In total, 15 MLAs were contacted across the South Belfast, East Belfast and North Down constituencies.

Each representative Member of Parliament was also contacted with a response gained from each respective office.

A suite of digital collateral was supplied to elected representatives to post on their own social media platforms to ensure that the consultation process was well publicised and that each event, relevant to their specific constituency and location, was highlighted within a reasonable time period (at least a week in advance).

## Direct engagement with Councils

As part of the wider engagement programme, Belfast City Airport ensured that it engaged with officials and elected representatives from local council areas. This included Belfast City Council, Ards and North Down Borough Council and Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council both prior to and during the consultation period.

This engagement took the form of one-to-one briefing meetings; a presentation to the party leader consultative forum at Belfast City Council, and the setting up of further engagement at Councillor level at Ards and North Down Borough Council.

This activity offered Belfast City Airport the opportunity to present information from the draft Master Plan directly and allow for questions to be fielded by the Belfast City Airport management team.



# Media Coverage

During the consultation period, Belfast City Airport's draft Master Plan was mentioned 194 times across broadcast, print and digital media.

This included UK, Ireland and Northern Ireland national daily media, weekly press, local broadcast radio, local television news, trade media and a range of online publications of national media or independent digital-only outlets.

## Social Media Sentiment Analysis

Throughout the consultation period, dedicated resources were allocated to monitor, track, and respond promptly to public and stakeholder feedback.

Organic social media reach grew from 436,509 views at the start of the consultation period to 517,363 views by its close on 11th November—an increase of 80,854. This uplift demonstrates sustained and growing interest in the draft Master Plan throughout the consultation timeframe.



Mentions of the draft Master Plan on third-party digital platforms generated a positive reaction, averaging 96.5% throughout the consultation period.

***Posts on Belfast City Airport's own social media channels achieved an average positive sentiment of 98%.***

Across all digital platforms, positive sentiment is based on Brand24's AI learning, which categorises digital content as positive or negative.

Social media commentary on Belfast City Airport's posts relating to the draft Master Plan was overwhelmingly positive, with many highlighting the airport as an "important strategic gateway to Northern Ireland" and expressing support for the proposed "potential new rail halt" connecting to the airport.



# Testimonials

In preparation for the launch of the draft Master Plan a range of organisations were engaged directly to seek their views, as part of a wider stakeholder engagement programme. This included a range of representative bodies who have a direct, or significant interest, in economic development in Northern Ireland.

## Economic Development Representation

The Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce said:

*“NI Chamber unequivocally supports the proposed improvement to connectivity, particularly the development of a dedicated rail platform linking directly to Belfast City Airport. Significantly, this would represent a first on the island of Ireland, a clear competitive advantage with Belfast City Centre accessible by rail in minutes.”*

*“NI Chamber recognise that this Master Plan presents a strategic opportunity for Northern Ireland’s economy. It would provide a platform for inward investment, export growth and talent mobility, directly supporting NI’s Executive’s PfG and wider policy ambitions around skills development, economic growth and international trade. Belfast City Airport can become a significant economic enabler – therefore, it is crucial that NI’s regulatory and fiscal frameworks are aligned to support this delivery and ensure the success of this investment.”*

*“In our support for the targeted increase in passenger numbers, NI Chamber recognises the need for Belfast City Airport to afford flexible operating conditions alongside enhancing its infrastructure in order to attract new generation aircraft – which are quieter, more fuel efficient and able to carry a greater number of passengers. Again, we offer our full support and commend Belfast City Airport in its exciting ambitions plans for growth.”*



Eastside Partnership said:

*“Belfast City Airport plays a major role, not only for Northern Ireland at a regional level, but for East Belfast. Its positive impact in terms of direct employment and its support for community projects and local economic development is core to how it operates. This new vision has the potential to support further regeneration projects and local tourism and help our community reach its full potential.”*



Federation of Small Businesses NI said:

*“Our regional economy is reliant on air connectivity for access to the GB and EU markets and for the movement of talent and skills. It’s so important that we do not take connectivity and routes for granted. Development of Belfast City Airport is critical to meet future economic ambition and projected passenger numbers to strengthen Northern Ireland’s position as a hub for business and trade.”*



Visit Belfast said:

*“Tourism plays a pivotal role in driving Belfast’s economy, serving as the lifeblood of our vibrant city. Ensuring robust air connectivity is not just vital, it is foundational to the sustained growth of our business and leisure visitor economy, as well as its competitive resilience. Continued investment in the city region’s transport infrastructure is key to delivering Visit Belfast’s vision to foster a more sustainable tourism sector that enriches visitor experiences while minimising its environmental footprint.”*



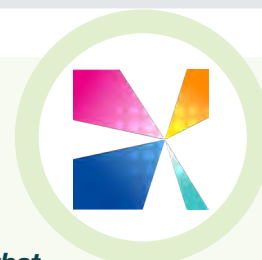
Invest NI said:

*“Belfast City Airport is a key economic enabler and a vital gateway, supporting the drive for greater FDI, export growth and helping us achieve our strategic priorities at Invest NI for the benefit of the local economy. This Master Plan sets out how the airport will meet future demand integral to boosting investment, innovation and regional balance.”*



Belfast Chamber said:

*“The delivery of the ambition outlined in this Master Plan will serve as a catalyst, accelerating economic growth, boosting jobs, attracting investment, and strengthening Belfast’s position as a connected, competitive city. The contribution that Belfast City Airport makes to local business, tourism and the community is significant. Connectivity is critical to Belfast’s economic success and the airport is a strategic economic asset that our members and wider society rely on as a lifeline for commerce and business. Belfast is a city on the rise and that requires Belfast City Airport to be ready to help us unlock our future potential in the next decade and beyond.”*



Construction Employers Federation said:

*“No further comments – excellent strategy.”*



Allstate NI said:

*“As a digital centre of excellence in Europe, Allstate Northern Ireland is a major employer in Belfast. We have a long-standing commitment to innovation that requires our people and teams to meet and collaborate regularly around the world. Belfast is an important location for us, and the proximity of Belfast City Airport is a vital link connecting our company and helps bring economic prosperity. Proposed growth at Belfast City Airport through this visionary Master Plan will facilitate greater opportunity for access and connectivity, crucial for our region.”*



Queen's University Belfast said:

*“We rely on the efficient and accessible air transport links that Belfast City Airport provides to maintain and grow our international partnerships, attract world-class academics, and support the mobility of students, staff, and visitors alike. Our academic community routinely benefits from the airport's accessibility and its ability to facilitate timely travel for conferences, research collaborations, and incoming delegations. Belfast City Airport is of strategic importance to the economic, academic, and social development of both Belfast city and the wider region.”*



## Consumer Focus Representation

The Belfast City Airport team did not meet with the Consumer Council NI team, but they did provide feedback via a written response covering a broader range of issues aligned with their interest in representing consumers in Northern Ireland.

Generally, the Consumer Council NI welcomed the potential development of Belfast City Airport and expressed its understanding that this would be good for consumers in terms of greater choice in both air routes, and how passengers will get to and from the airport in future.

***“For consumers in Northern Ireland this should mean greater choice of flights locally connecting to the UK and Europe and competitive air fares. We also appreciate enhancements to transport access to the airport will improve traffic flow, reduce journey times and support integration to increase use of sustainable transport modes.”***

Consumer Council NI also sought some assurances about the potential development in relation to the environment, accessibility and inclusive design station:

### Accessibility & Inclusive Design

***“The Master Plan should specify a commitment to accessibility and inclusive design, including engagement with the Airport Accessibility Forum from the earliest opportunity.”***

### Sustainability & Environmental Concerns - Informing Customers

***“Providing regular updates on sustainability measures including how the airport is managing environmental concerns, and contributing to the UK’s overall carbon reduction targets, in a consumer-friendly format will help consumers understand the steps required to achieve these goals and enable them to assess the airport’s progress.”***

The potential for the new rail halt and better options for public transport in accessing the airport also ranked highly, stating:

### Public Transport

***“To increase public transport use at the airport it will be essential to work closely with Translink to ensure sufficient frequency and reliability of services to meet demand.”***

## Airport rail halt to improve access to public transport

***“A direct rail link to Belfast City Airport will improve choice of convenient, sustainable, transport options for consumers. We look forward to seeing the outworkings of the partnership between Belfast City Airport and Translink to explore the potential project.”***

## Wildlife and Environmental Representation

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Northern Ireland responded to the consultation via a letter with a series of concerns.

It was the only organisation representing wildlife and environmental related issues to respond to the consultation stating:

***“Aviation expansion is incompatible with our efforts to meet net zero and thus tackle climate change.”***

***“The RSPB is therefore opposed to aviation expansion until government can demonstrate how this can be achieved and still meet NI and UK targets for emissions reductions across the whole economy.”***

***“Development proposed by the master plan lies in close proximity to the RSPB harbour meadows and the RSPB Window on Wildlife. On a without prejudice basis to the concerns expressed regarding aviation expansion, all proposed development must be designed to be sited, constructed and operated in harmony with nature. All proposals must be underpinned by robust and competent environmental assessment which should go beyond the Preliminary Environmental Report enclosed with the Master Plan.”***

## Airlines

The Aviation Development Team at Belfast City Airport engaged with airline partners throughout the consultation period, who broadly welcomed the draft Master Plan, indicating their support for development at Belfast City Airport that could allow them to meet passenger demand over the Master Plan period to 2040. Airlines also welcomed plans to improve passenger experience and public transport provision.

There was strong support for adjusting operational constraints, including operating hours, that unless changed, would constrain operations and future growth plans at the airport and curtail their ability to meet increased passenger demand.

# Overview of Consultation Feedback

The consultation process took a wide-ranging approach to engage, inform and invite feedback on the draft Master Plan.

The full consultation methodology and approach is detailed in the Consultation Approach section of this document.

This section provides an overview of the feedback and responses received during the consultation period, primarily via the online feedback questionnaire, passenger surveys and community engagement events.

These consultation responses are in addition to the prior engagement carried out with a range of business organisations who also provided feedback to the draft Master Plan as detailed in Section 8.



Tim Halley, Belfast City Airport discusses the draft Master Plan with an attendee

## Methods of Responding

Responses were received throughout the consultation period via a number of methods and categorised as follows:

1. Online questionnaire feedback forms that were completed via the Belfast City Airport draft Master Plan website.
2. Hard copy questionnaire feedback forms that were completed at the public engagement events.
3. Letters and direct email correspondence to the airport's Master Plan team from both individuals and organisations.
4. Survey responses provided by passengers within the airport terminal.

Overall, there were 376 responses to the draft Master Plan consultation, as follows:

- A large majority of these responses (313) were provided through the online feedback questionnaire, accessed via the draft Master Plan website.
- A further 43 responses came from completed 'hard copy' feedback questionnaires that were submitted at one of the three community engagement events.
- In addition, 20 people or organisations submitted feedback through emails and letters to the Belfast City Airport Master Plan team.

| Method                                                                            | Number |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Online responses via feedback questionnaire on the designated website             | 313    |
| Hard copy feedback questionnaires completed at community engagement events        | 43     |
| Letters and email responses directly to the Belfast City Airport Master Plan team | 20     |
| Passengers (surveyed within the airport terminal)                                 | 619    |

## Interpretation and Context

For the purposes of analysing the feedback, we dealt with the completed questionnaires (both hard copy and online), separate to the in-terminal survey responses.

*Public responses* outline the responses received to the questionnaire via the draft Master Plan website, as well as the hard copy questionnaires that were completed at the community engagement events.

*Passenger responses* detail the responses received from passengers who participated in the in-terminal survey.

It is important to note that the questions put to both the public and passengers were the same, reflecting the themes in the draft consultation document. A list of the questions put to both groups can be viewed at Appendix 7.

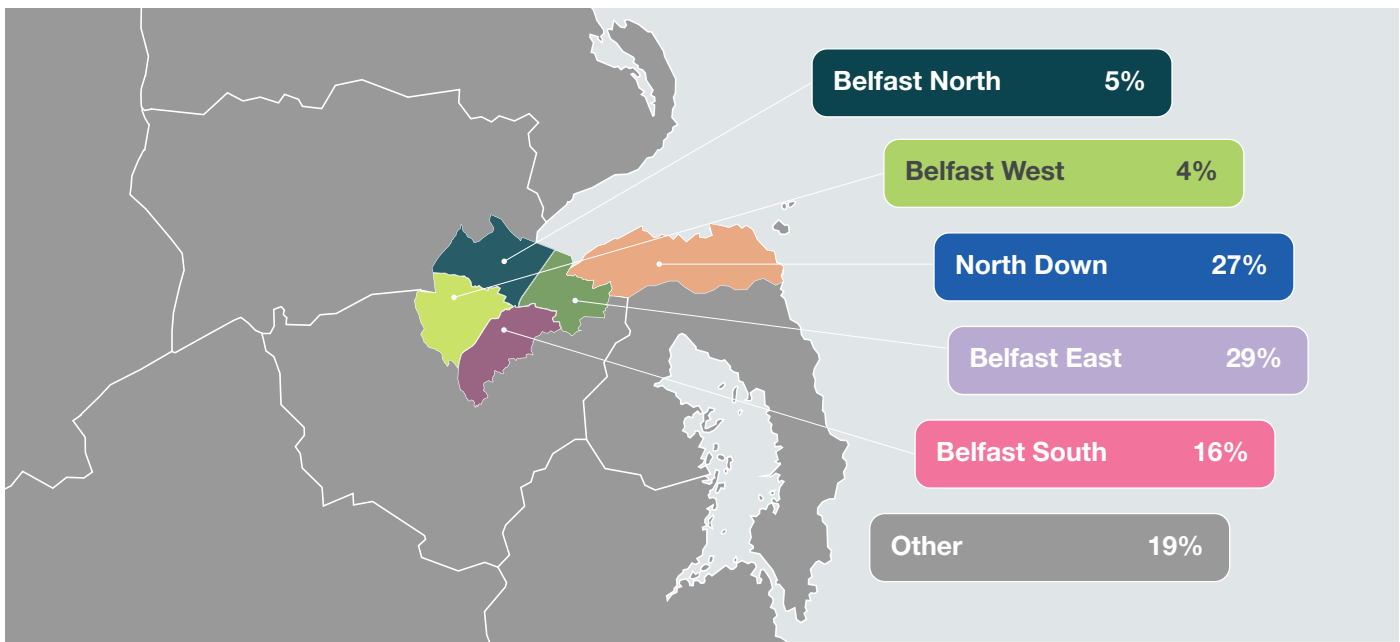
In this section, we show the breakdown of responses received across these two key groups.

An analysis of the responses submitted by letter and email is included in Section 10. This analysis groups together many of the common themes that emerged as a result of this engagement.

## Geographical Analysis of Respondents

The feedback received from respondents to the questionnaire and passenger survey came from a range of geographical locations across Northern Ireland and further afield.

Combined, residents of East Belfast and North Down represent more than half of all respondents (56%), which is to be expected as the closest neighbours to Belfast City Airport.



Note: Due to statistical rounding of figures, some of the charts presented in this section from both the feedback questionnaires and the passenger survey will not total 100 per cent exactly.

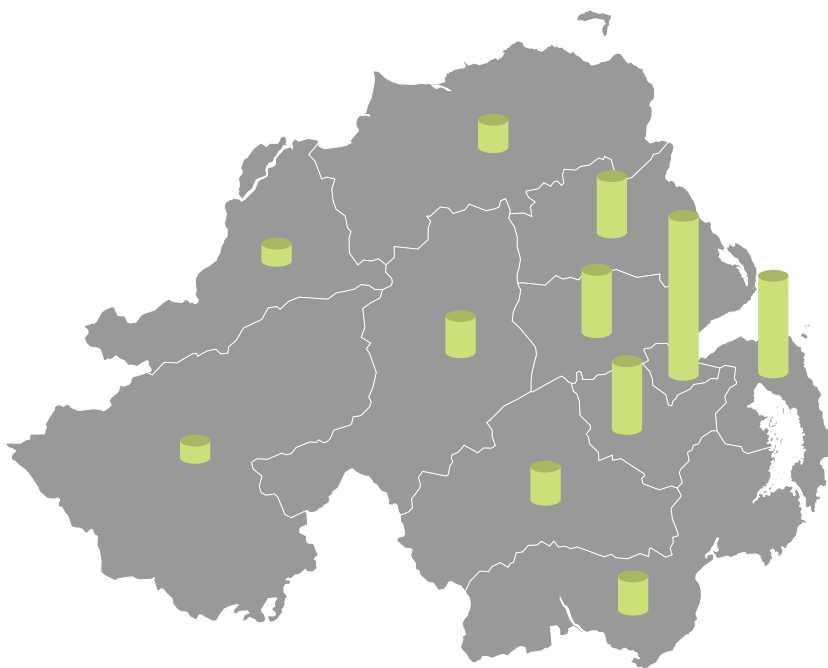
## Passenger Responses

A total of 619 passengers responded to the in-terminal survey. The below table illustrates where they reside.

| Area                          | Proportion |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Reside in NI                  | 45%        |
| Reside in England             | 34%        |
| Reside in Scotland            | 8%         |
| Rest of world                 | 6%         |
| Reside in Wales               | 3%         |
| Reside in Republic of Ireland | 2%         |
| Reside elsewhere in Europe    | 2%         |

Of those passengers who reside in Northern Ireland (268), a breakdown of their location by Local Government Council area is provided below.

| Area                                 | Proportion |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Belfast City                         | 29%        |
| Ards and North Down                  | 18%        |
| Lisburn and Castlereagh              | 12%        |
| Antrim and Newtownabbey              | 11%        |
| Mid and East Antrim                  | 9%         |
| Mid Ulster                           | 5%         |
| Newry, Mourne and Down               | 4%         |
| Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon | 4%         |
| Causeway Coast and Glens             | 3%         |
| Fermanagh and Omagh                  | 2%         |
| Derry City and Strabane              | 2%         |



## Questionnaire

### Breakdown of Responses

#### Feedback from public and passenger responses

A detailed breakdown of each question from the feedback questionnaire form is provided below, along with an overview of how people responded to each of these. Again, the responses have been grouped into two broad categories:

- Public responses - those who completed questionnaires either online or hard-copy
- Passenger responses - those who responded to the in-terminal survey

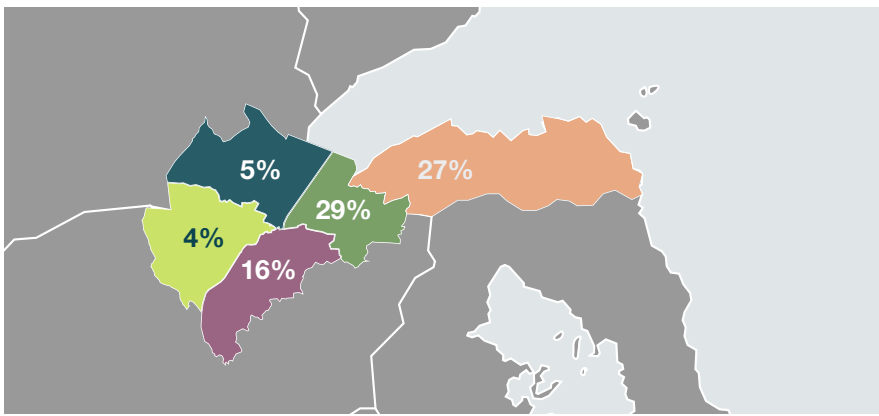
### Theme: Location

1a.

What geographical area best describes where you reside?

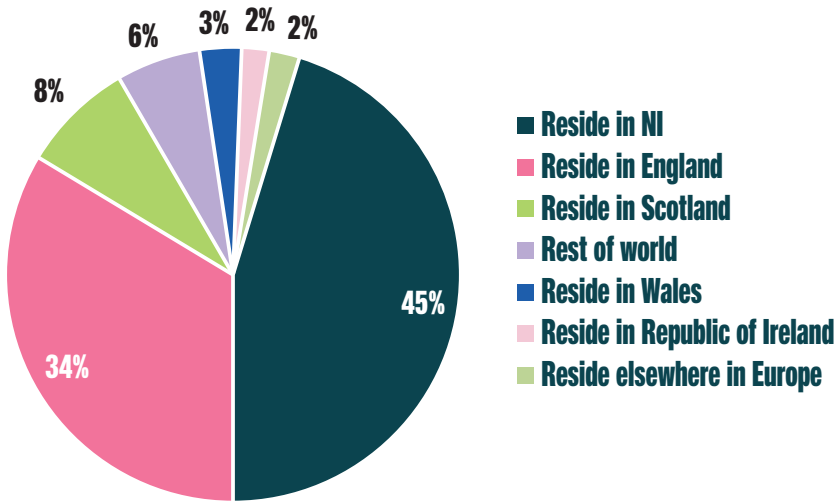
#### Public Responses:

| Area          | Proportion |
|---------------|------------|
| Belfast East  | 29%        |
| North Down    | 27%        |
| Other         | 19%        |
| Belfast South | 16%        |
| Belfast North | 5%         |
| Belfast West  | 4%         |



#### Passenger Responses:

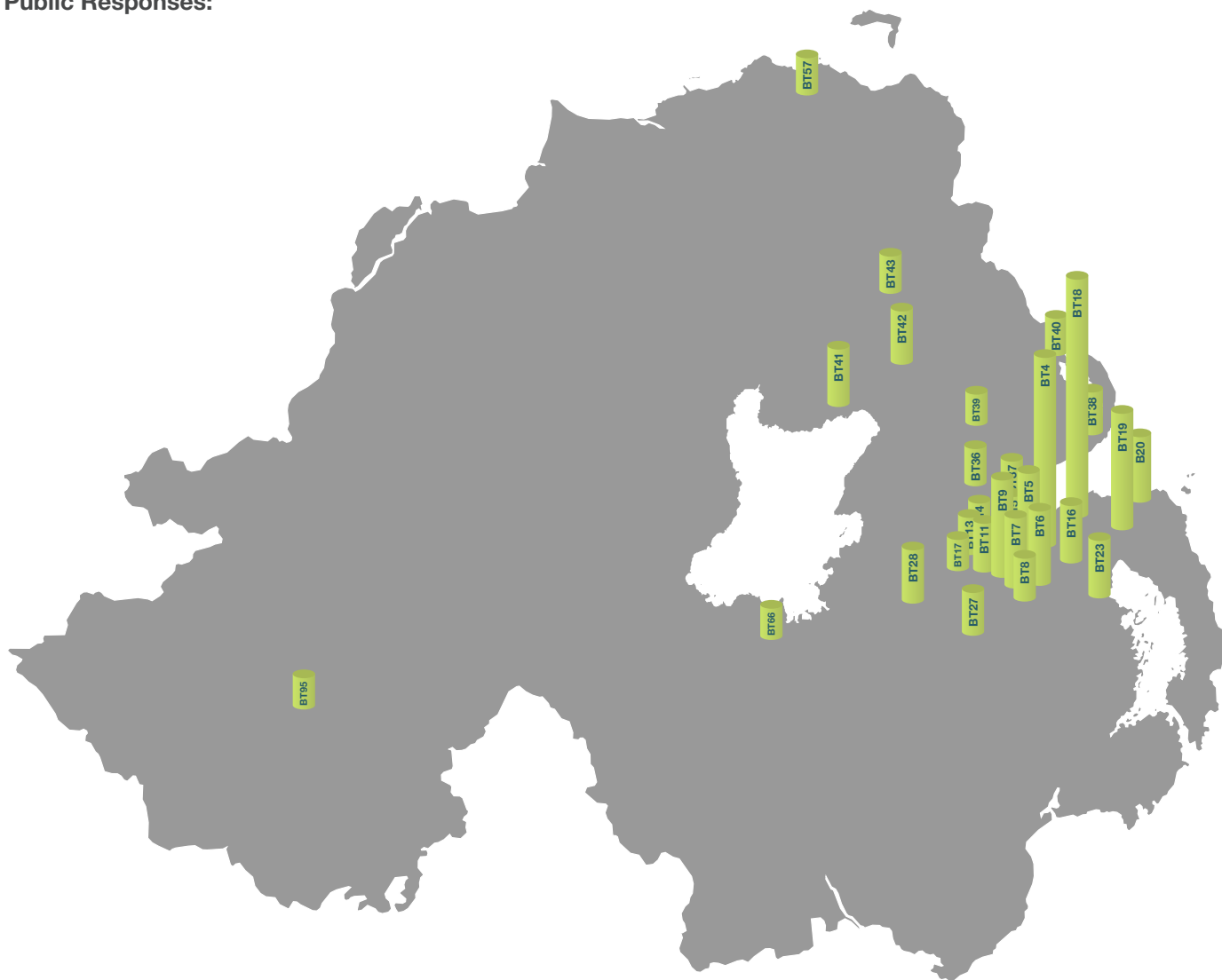
| Area                          | Proportion |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Reside in NI                  | 45%        |
| Reside in England             | 34%        |
| Reside in Scotland            | 8%         |
| Rest of world                 | 6%         |
| Reside in Wales               | 3%         |
| Reside in Republic of Ireland | 2%         |
| Reside elsewhere in Europe    | 2%         |



1b.

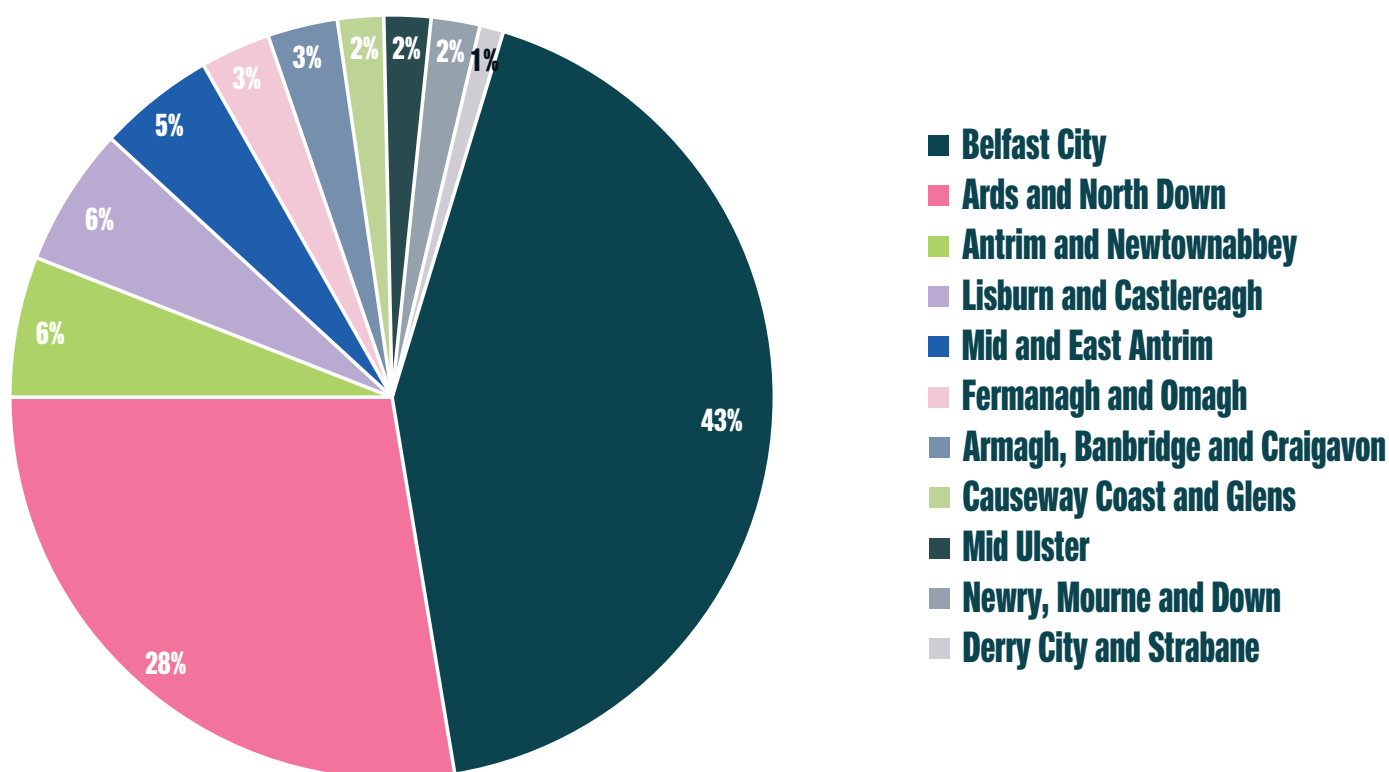
Please confirm your postcode

Public Responses:



| Postcode | Number | Postcode | Number | Postcode | Number | Postcode | Number |
|----------|--------|----------|--------|----------|--------|----------|--------|
| BT18     | 49     | BT37     | 6      | BT17     | 3      | BT96     | 1      |
| BT4      | 41     | BT11     | 6      | BT66     | 3      | BT62     | 1      |
| BT19     | 24     | BT8      | 5      | BT97     | 3      | BT74     | 1      |
| BT9      | 21     | BT27     | 5      | BT12     | 2      | BT24     | 1      |
| BT5      | 20     | BT38     | 5      | BT3      | 2      | BT22     | 1      |
| BT6      | 16     | BT14     | 4      | BT21     | 2      | BT60     | 1      |
| BT7      | 15     | BT13     | 4      | BT47     | 2      | BT68     | 1      |
| BT20     | 14     | BT43     | 4      | BT34     | 2      | BT63     | 1      |
| BT15     | 8      | BT36     | 4      | BT67     | 2      | BT80     | 1      |
| BT23     | 8      | BT57     | 4      | BT71     | 2      | BT72     | 1      |
| BT16     | 8      | BT73     | 4      | BT45     | 2      | BT25     | 1      |
| BT41     | 8      | BT40     | 3      | BT54     | 2      | BT30     | 1      |
| BT42     | 7      | BT95     | 3      | BT10     | 1      | BT1      | 1      |
| BT28     | 7      | BT39     | 3      | BT61     | 1      |          |        |

**Passenger Responses** (based on the 268 who reside in NI):



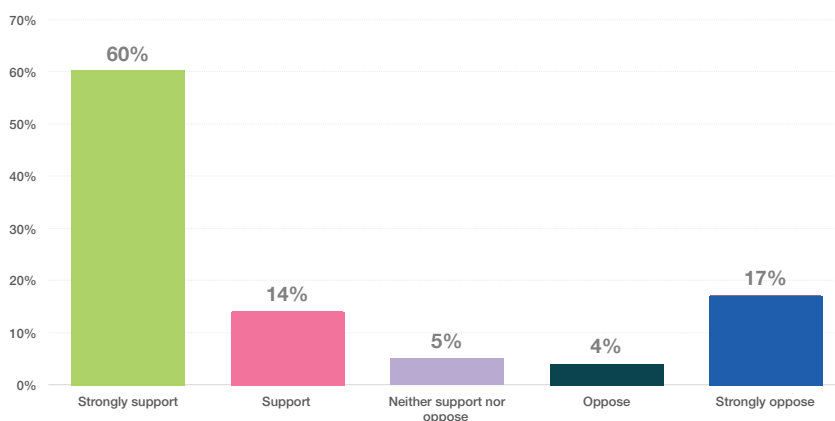
| Area                            | Proportion |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Belfast City                    | 43%        |
| Ards and North Down             | 28%        |
| Antrim and Newtownabbey         | 6%         |
| Lisburn and Castlereagh         | 6%         |
| Mid and East Antrim             | 5%         |
| Fermanagh and Omagh             | 3%         |
| Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon | 3%         |
| Causeway Coast and Glens        | 2%         |
| Mid Ulster                      | 2%         |
| Newry, Mourne and Down          | 2%         |
| Derry City and Strabane         | 1%         |

## Theme: Master Plan vision to deliver prosperity and connectivity

### 2. To what extent do you support or oppose the principle of growing Belfast City Airport and the Northern Ireland economy?

#### Public Responses:

| Response                   | Proportion |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Strongly support           | 60%        |
| Support                    | 14%        |
| Neither support nor oppose | 5%         |
| Oppose                     | 4%         |
| Strongly oppose            | 17%        |



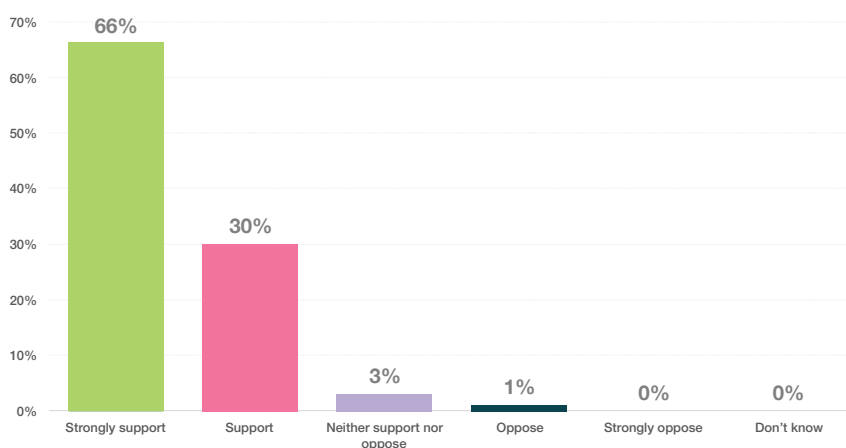
60% of respondents outlined “strong support” in answer to this question. Combined with those who “support” the principle of growth, this number increases to 74% of respondents.

Those who opposed the principle of growth represented 21% of respondents, made up of 17% who stated they “strongly oppose” the principle of growing Belfast City Airport and the Northern Ireland economy and 4% who stated they “oppose” this principle of growth.

A total of 5% of respondents to this question stated they “neither support nor oppose” the principle of growing Belfast City Airport and the NI economy.

#### Passenger Responses:

| Response                   | Proportion |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Strongly support           | 66%        |
| Support                    | 30%        |
| Neither support nor oppose | 3%         |
| Oppose                     | 1%         |
| Strongly oppose            | 0%         |



Overall, 96% of passengers who took part in the in-terminal survey responded that they support the principle of growing Belfast City Airport and the NI economy (30% of respondents stated they “support” the principle and 66% of respondents stated they “strongly support” the principle). 1% of respondents stated they oppose the principle of growing Belfast City Airport and the Northern Ireland economy.

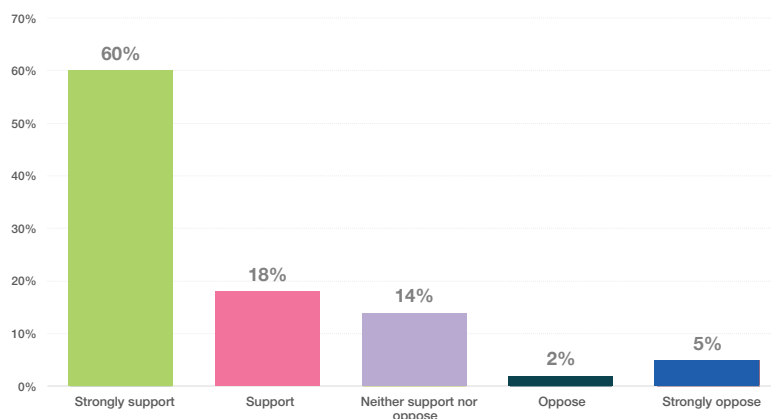
A total of 3% of respondents “neither support nor oppose” this principle.

## Theme: Keeping Northern Ireland connected

### 3. To what extent do you support or oppose the principle of Belfast City Airport playing its part to meet the future connectivity requirements of Northern Ireland, subject to addressing any potential effects on the environment and our local community?

#### Public Responses:

| Response                   | Proportion |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Strongly support           | 60%        |
| Support                    | 18%        |
| Neither support nor oppose | 14%        |
| Oppose                     | 2%         |
| Strongly oppose            | 5%         |



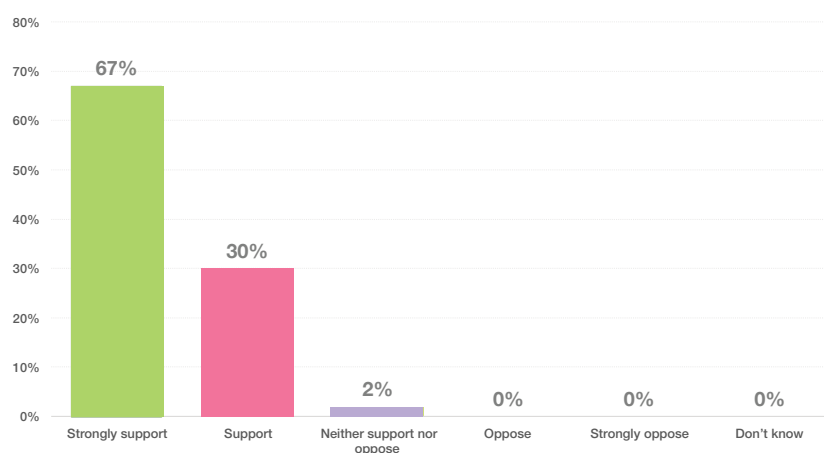
More than three quarters of respondents (78%) stated they “support” or “strongly support” the principle of Belfast City Airport playing its part to meet future connectivity requirements.

7% of those who responded to this question were “opposed” to this principle. This is broken down by 5% “strongly opposed” and 2% “opposed”.

Those in the “neither support nor oppose” category totalled 14% of respondents.

#### Passenger Responses:

| Response                   | Proportion |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Strongly support           | 67%        |
| Support                    | 30%        |
| Neither support nor oppose | 2%         |
| Oppose                     | 0%         |
| Strongly oppose            | 0%         |
| Don't know                 | 0%         |



67% of passengers surveyed “strongly supported” this principle with an additional 30% of passengers in “support”. 2% of passengers surveyed neither supported nor opposed the principle of the airport playing its part to meet future connectivity requirements.

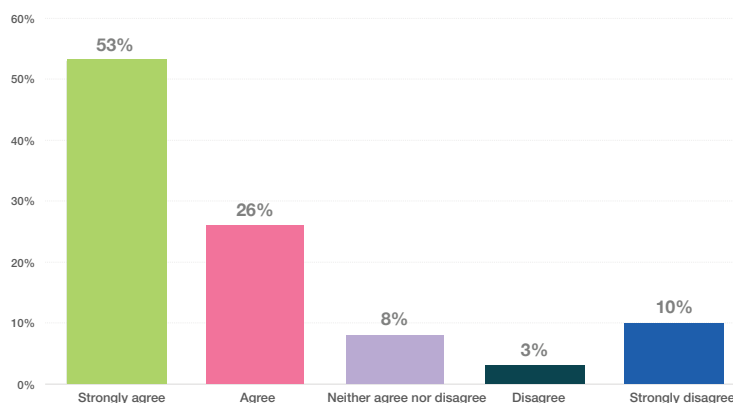
No passengers surveyed were opposed to this principle.

## Theme: Keeping Northern Ireland connected

### 4a. Do you agree that the scale of economic benefits are significant when considered alongside other social benefits?

#### Public Responses:

| Response                   | Proportion |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Strongly agree             | 53%        |
| Agree                      | 26%        |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 8%         |
| Disagree                   | 3%         |
| Strongly disagree          | 10%        |

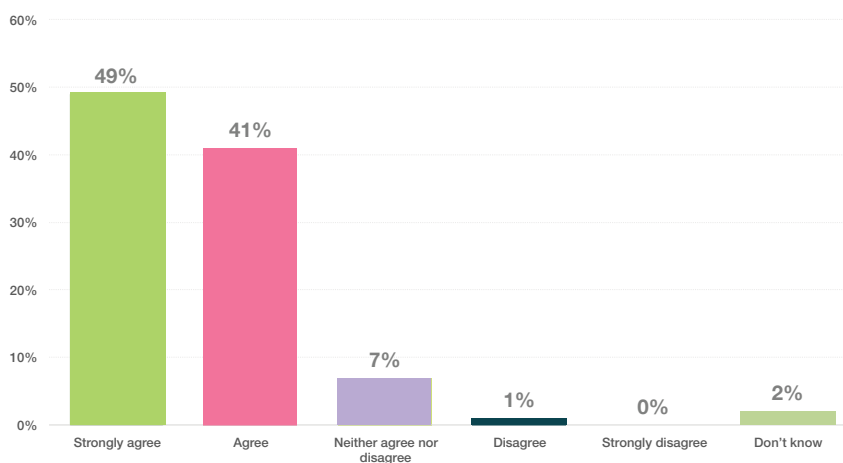


The majority of those who responded to this question agreed that the scale of economic benefits were significant. A combined total of 79% stated they “agree” or “strongly agree” with this statement.

13% of respondents to this question did not agree with this statement (3% of respondents selected “disagree” and 10% of respondents selected “strongly disagree”) and 8% stated they neither “agree” nor “disagree”.

#### Passenger Responses:

| Response                   | Proportion |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Strongly agree             | 49%        |
| Agree                      | 41%        |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 7%         |
| Disagree                   | 1%         |
| Strongly disagree          | 0%         |
| Don't know                 | 2%         |



A total of 90% of passengers surveyed stated they “agree” that the scale of economic benefits are significant when considered alongside other social benefits. This is broken down further by 41% of people who “agree” and 49% of people who “strongly agree”.

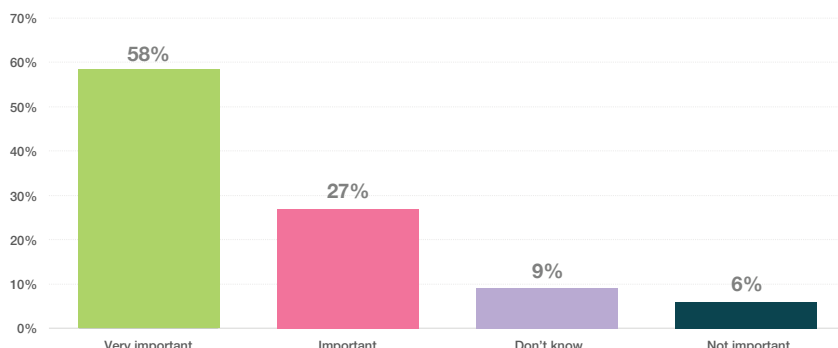
1% of passengers surveyed stated they “disagree” with this statement, and a further 7% stated they “neither agree nor disagree”.

4b.

**How important do you feel it is that up to 15% of new jobs are delivered through apprenticeships and training programmes for young people, returners, and those wishing to retrain?**

#### Public Responses:

| Response       | Proportion |
|----------------|------------|
| Very important | 58%        |
| Important      | 27%        |
| Don't know     | 9%         |
| Not important  | 6%         |

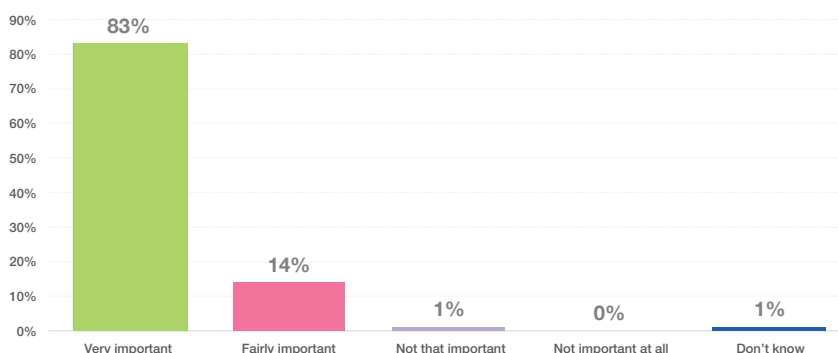


Overall, 85% of people who responded to this question thought that up to 15% of new jobs being delivered through apprenticeships and training programmes for young people, returners, and those wishing to retrain was “important” or “very important”.

Approximately 9% of respondents stated they “don’t know” if this element of the draft Master Plan is important to them, and 6% of respondents did not think that delivering 15% of jobs through apprenticeships and training programmes was “important”.

#### Passenger Responses:

| Response             | Proportion |
|----------------------|------------|
| Very important       | 83%        |
| Fairly important     | 14%        |
| Not that important   | 1%         |
| Not important at all | 0%         |
| Don't know           | 1%         |



Passenger responses to this question via the in-terminal survey presented consistent results, with 97% of respondents stating the delivery of 15% of jobs through apprenticeships and training programmes was important (83% of respondents believe this is “very important” and 14% of respondents believe this is “fairly important”).

Those who responded that they “don’t know” totalled 1% of respondents to the in-terminal passenger survey, and those who thought it is ‘not that important’ totalled 1%.

**4c.**

**In addition to a new employment academy, do you have any other suggestions about how we can create more education, employment and training opportunities for our local community?**

Not all public respondents answered this free text question, which provided respondents with the opportunity to give us their thoughts with no multiple choice answers. Below is a representation of some of the more common answers that reflect the broad sentiment of the suggestions made in response to this question:

***“Engage with local businesses to see how training and apprenticeships could be progressed together.”***

***“Involvement of university students involved in engineering, construction, quantity surveying to promote aviation careers.”***

***“While collaboration is currently good with the community and education sectors there is scope to strengthen this through formalised strategic partnerships in the current infrastructure in east.”***

***“Connecting much more with local schools and colleges not only giving money but giving vision. Have a dedicated youth room for use by local groups.”***

***“Better training in hospitality language fluency technical training etc yes get a decent route network to support the proposed expansion plan. Does not do this to any degree airy fairy suggestions with none worked through.”***

***“Provide placement and work experience opportunities to education establishments, training engineers and technicians”***

***“Provide work schemes for people with disabilities and others that are excluded from the workplace.”***

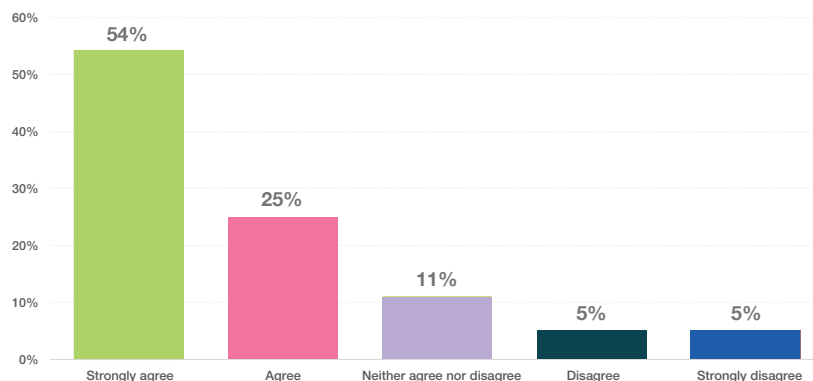
***“Encourage youth groups to visit and outline to them the career paths.”***

## Theme: Keeping Northern Ireland connected

### 5a. Do you agree that we should make bold changes to give people better, greener ways of getting to and from the airport?

#### Public Responses:

| Response                   | Proportion |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Strongly agree             | 54%        |
| Agree                      | 25%        |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 11%        |
| Disagree                   | 5%         |
| Strongly disagree          | 5%         |

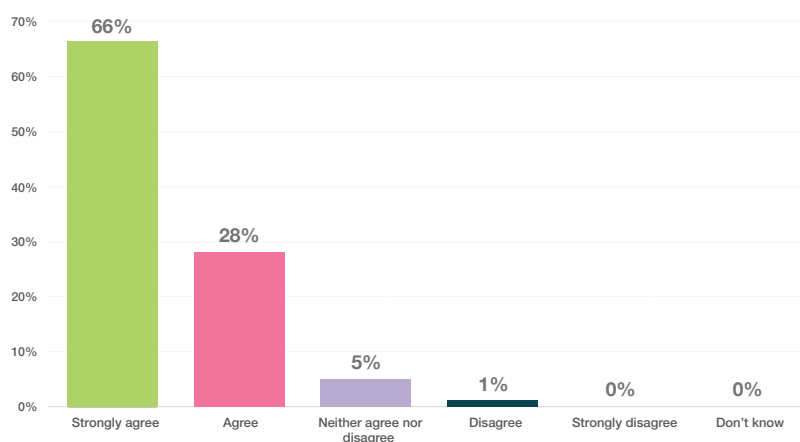


The responses to this question showed that 79% of respondents agreed (25% of respondents stated they “agree” and 54% of respondents stated they “strongly agree”) that bold changes should be made to give people better, greener ways of travelling to and from the airport.

11% of respondents stated they neither agree nor disagree, and 10% of respondents stated they either “disagree” (5%) or “strongly disagree” (5%) that bold changes should be made.

#### Passenger Responses:

| Response                   | Proportion |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Strongly agree             | 66%        |
| Agree                      | 28%        |
| Neither agree nor disagree | 5%         |
| Disagree                   | 1%         |
| Strongly disagree          | 0%         |
| Don't know                 | 0%         |



Results from the in-terminal passenger survey showed strong support for bold changes to give people better, greener ways of getting to and from the airport. 28% of respondents stated they “agree” and 66% of respondents stated they “strongly agree” with this principle.

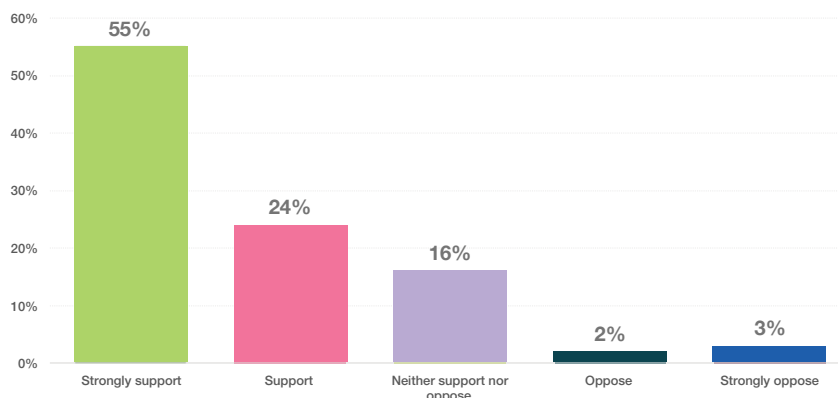
1% of passengers surveyed stated they “disagree” with this principle, and 5% of passengers stated they “neither agree nor disagree”.

5b.

## Do you support the opportunity and ambition to provide a new rail halt directly linking the airport terminal to Grand Central Station?

### Public Responses:

| Response                   | Proportion |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Strongly support           | 55%        |
| Support                    | 24%        |
| Neither support nor oppose | 16%        |
| Oppose                     | 2%         |
| Strongly oppose            | 3%         |

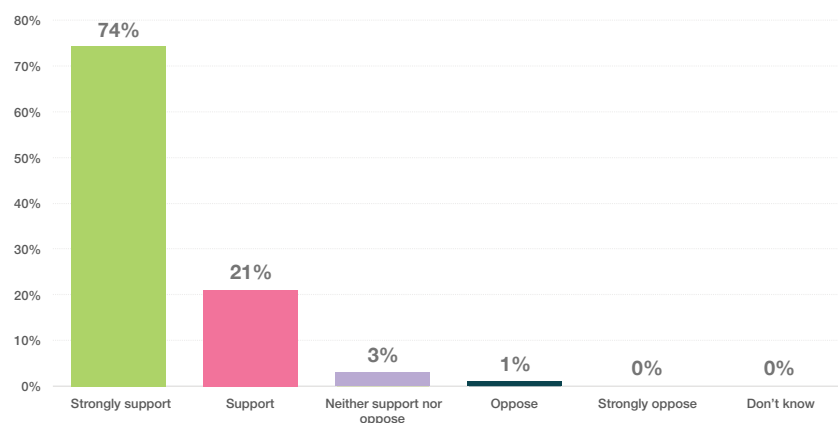


A total of 55% of respondents strongly supported the ambition to provide a new rail halt directly linking the airport terminal to Grand Central Station, with an additional 24% supporting this idea, giving a combined total of 79% of respondents in support of this opportunity.

16% of respondents stated they “neither support nor oppose” this opportunity, and 5% of respondents stated they were opposed to this opportunity (this is broken down by 2% of respondents who stated they “oppose” and 3% of respondents who stated they “strongly oppose” this opportunity).

### Passenger Responses:

| Response                   | Proportion |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Strongly support           | 74%        |
| Support                    | 21%        |
| Neither support nor oppose | 3%         |
| Oppose                     | 1%         |
| Strongly oppose            | 0%         |
| Don't know                 | 0%         |



Overall, 95% of passengers surveyed were supportive (21% of respondents stated they “support”, 74% of respondents stated they “strongly support”) of the opportunity for a new rail halt that will directly link the airport terminal to Belfast’s Grand Central Station.

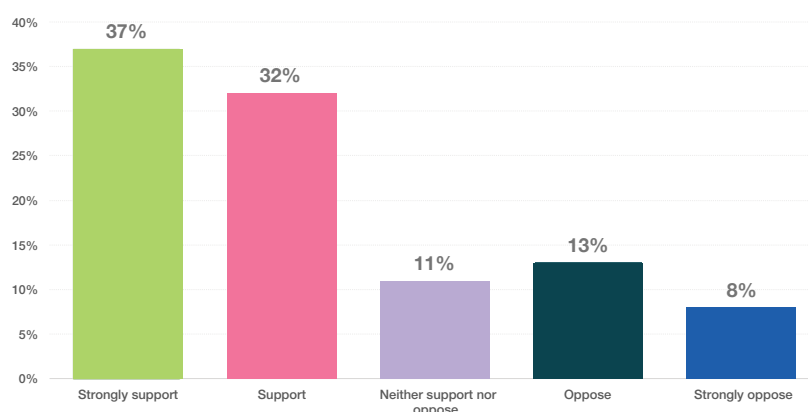
1% of passengers who responded to the in-terminal survey stated they “oppose” this opportunity, and 3% of passengers surveyed stated they “neither support nor oppose” this opportunity.

## Theme: Creating conditions to unlock the benefits

- 6. Would you be supportive of the principle of more flexibility beyond 21:30 if it: remained within the 23:59 cutoff; unlocked the full range of social and economic benefits; and accelerated investment in cleaner quieter new generation aircraft? Any such proposals would be subject to more detailed consultation and include appropriate controls.**

### Public Responses:

| Response                   | Proportion |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Strongly support           | 37%        |
| Support                    | 32%        |
| Neither support nor oppose | 11%        |
| Oppose                     | 13%        |
| Strongly oppose            | 8%         |

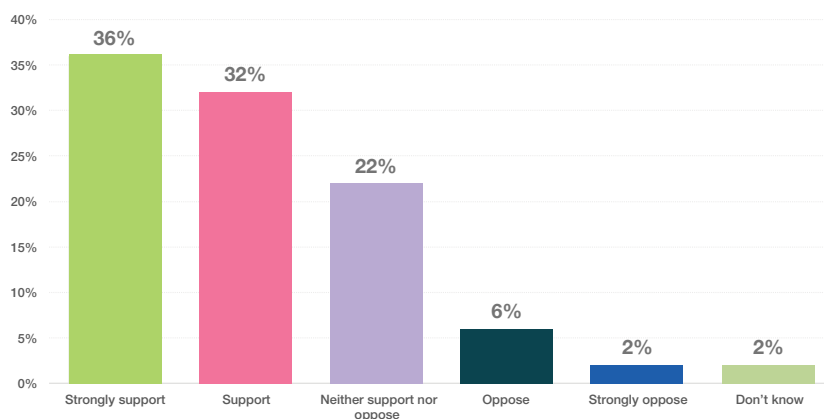


69% of respondents to this question stated they either “support” (32%) or “strongly support” (37%) the principle of more flexibility beyond 21:30. 11% of respondents stated they “neither support nor oppose” this principle.

A total of 21% of respondents “opposed” (13%) or “strongly opposed” (8%) the principle of more flexibility in operating hours beyond 21:30.

### Passenger Responses:

| Response                   | Proportion |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Strongly support           | 36%        |
| Support                    | 32%        |
| Neither support nor oppose | 22%        |
| Oppose                     | 6%         |
| Strongly oppose            | 2%         |
| Don't know                 | 2%         |



68% of passengers who took part in the in-terminal surveying stated they either “strongly support” (36%) or “support” (32%) the principle of flexibility beyond 21:30. 8% of passengers surveyed were stated they “oppose” (6%) or “strongly oppose” (2%) this principle.

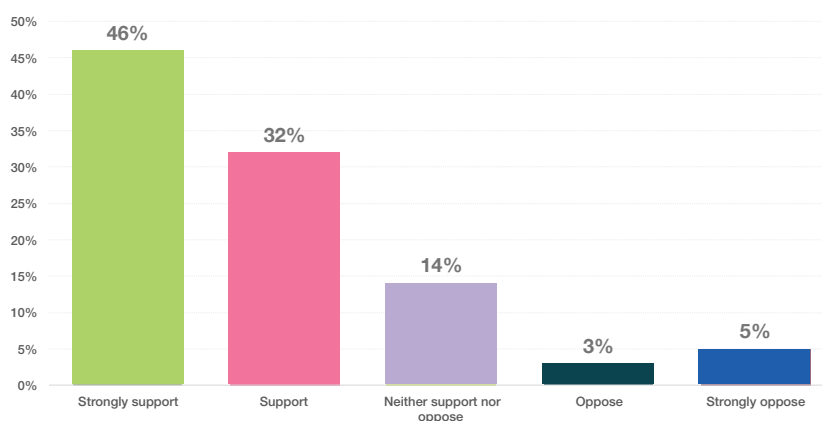
24% of passengers surveyed stated they “neither support nor oppose” (22%) this principle, or they “don’t know” (2%).

## Theme: Sustainability Initiatives

### 7. To what extent do you support the airport's proposed sustainability measures including investment in net zero operations, onsite renewables, improved public transport access, and support for new generation aircraft?

#### Public Responses:

| Response                   | Proportion |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Strongly support           | 46%        |
| Support                    | 32%        |
| Neither support nor oppose | 14%        |
| Oppose                     | 3%         |
| Strongly oppose            | 5%         |

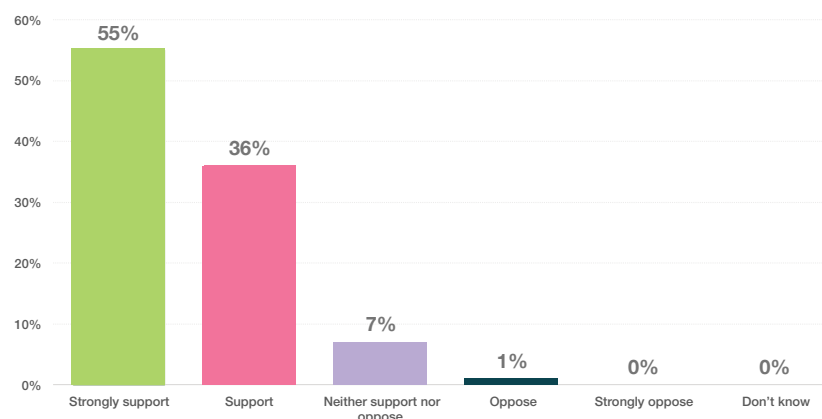


A total of 78% of respondents to this question stated they “support” (32%) or “strongly support” (46%) Belfast City Airport’s proposed sustainability measures. 14% of respondents stated they “neither support nor oppose” the proposed sustainability measures.

8% of respondents to this question stated they “oppose” (3%) or “strongly oppose” (5%) the airport’s proposed sustainability measures.

#### Passenger Responses:

| Response                   | Proportion |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Strongly support           | 55%        |
| Support                    | 36%        |
| Neither support nor oppose | 7%         |
| Oppose                     | 1%         |
| Strongly oppose            | 0%         |
| Don't know                 | 0%         |



91% of passengers who completed the in-terminal survey stated they “support” (36%) or “strongly support” (55%) the airport’s proposed sustainability measures.

7% of passengers surveyed stated they “neither support nor oppose” these measures and a total of 1% of respondents stated they “oppose” the proposed sustainability measures.

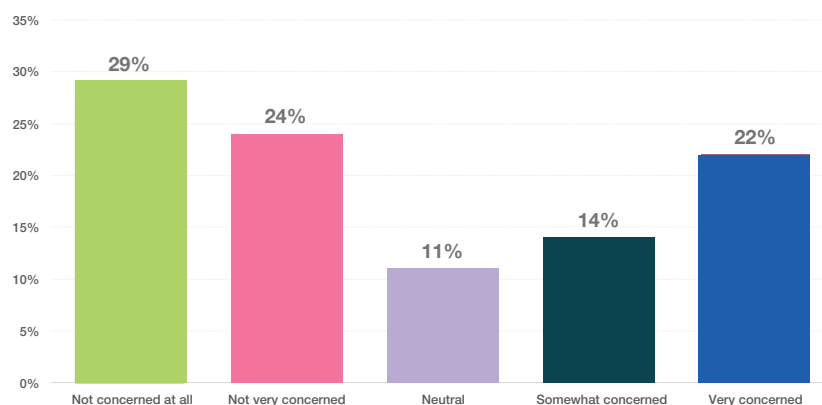
## Theme: Environmental Effects

8.

Given the comprehensive assessment of potential effects on how these will be managed and mitigated do you still have any concerns regarding our emerging proposals?

### Public Responses:

| Response             | Proportion |
|----------------------|------------|
| Not concerned at all | 29%        |
| Not very concerned   | 24%        |
| Neutral              | 11%        |
| Somewhat concerned   | 14%        |
| Very concerned       | 22%        |



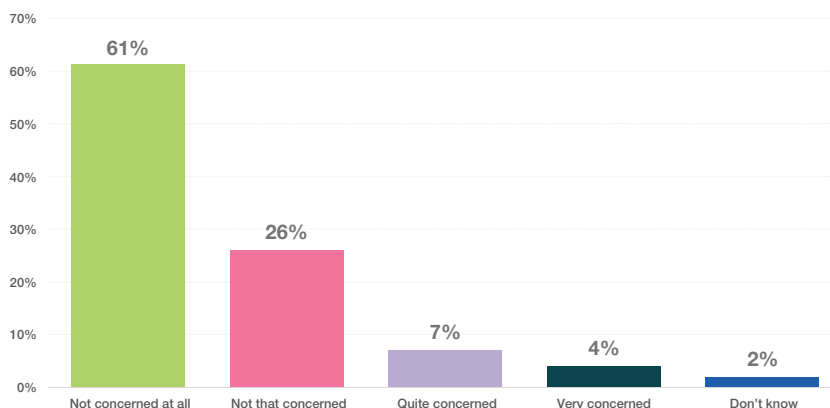
A combined total of 53% of respondents said they are either “not very concerned” (24%), or “not concerned at all” (29%) about the emerging proposals.

11% of respondents stated they are “neutral” regarding the emerging proposals.

A total of 36% of respondents stated they are “very concerned” (22%) or “somewhat concerned” (14%) about Belfast City Airport’s emerging proposals.

### Passenger Responses:

| Response             | Proportion |
|----------------------|------------|
| Not concerned at all | 61%        |
| Not that concerned   | 26%        |
| Quite concerned      | 7%         |
| Very concerned       | 4%         |
| Don't know           | 2%         |
| Don't know           | 0%         |



Overall, 87% of the surveyed passengers stated they are either “not that concerned” (26%) or “not concerned at all” (61%) about the airport’s emerging proposals.

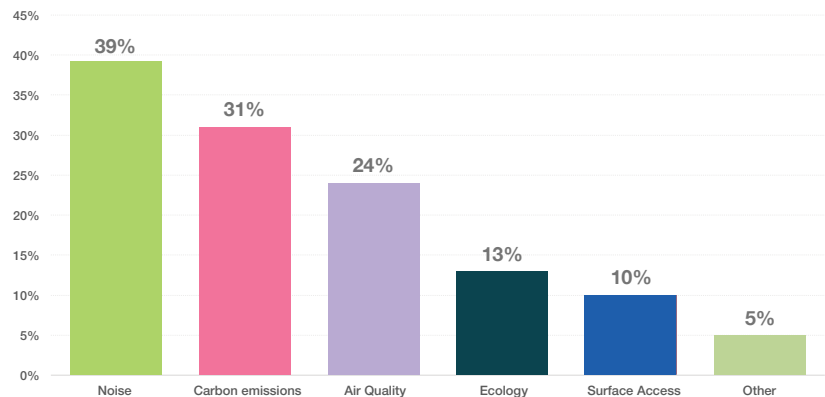
11% of passengers who took part in the survey stated they are either “very concerned” (4%) or “quite concerned” (7%) about the emerging proposals, whilst 2% of respondents said they “don’t know”.

8b.

## Which aspects of the proposals concern you?

### Public Responses:

| Aspect           | Proportion |
|------------------|------------|
| Noise            | 39%        |
| Carbon emissions | 31%        |
| Air Quality      | 24%        |
| Ecology          | 13%        |
| Surface Access   | 10%        |
| Other            | 5%         |

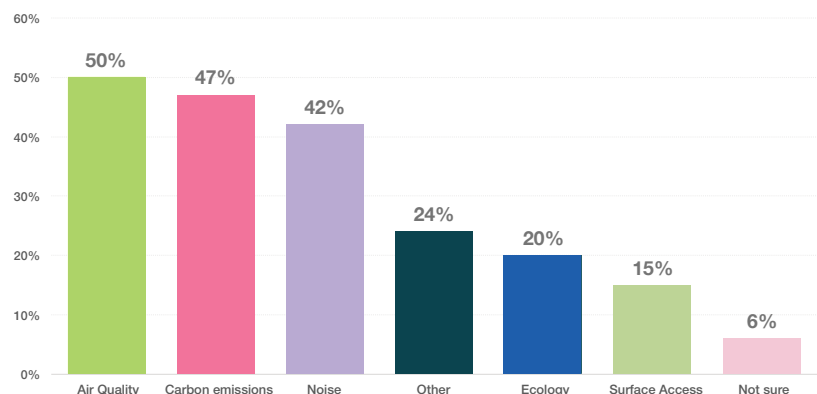


Respondents had the ability to select more than one option to this question to ensure they had the opportunity to highlight any aspect of concern.

The responses to this question showed that the most common areas of concern to respondents are: noise (39%), followed by carbon emissions (31%) and air quality (24%).

### Passenger Responses:

| Aspect           | Proportion |
|------------------|------------|
| Air Quality      | 50%        |
| Carbon emissions | 47%        |
| Noise            | 42%        |
| Other            | 24%        |
| Ecology          | 20%        |
| Surface Access   | 15%        |
| Not sure         | 6%         |



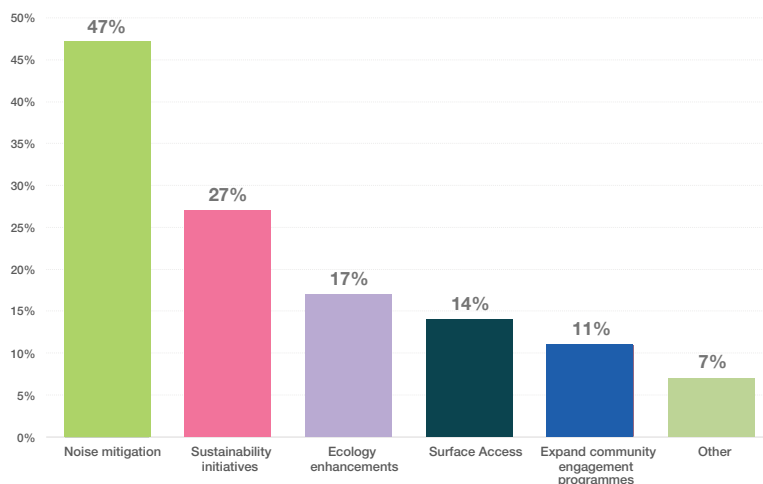
As with the online and hard copy questionnaire, passengers responding to the in-terminal survey were given the ability to select more than one option to this question. Similarly to the respondents to the questionnaire, the most common areas of concern were air quality (50%), carbon emissions (47%) and noise (42%).

8c.

**Based on the above, which measures would you like the airport to further target as part of the Master Plan?**

#### Public Responses:

| Response                               | Proportion |
|----------------------------------------|------------|
| Noise mitigation                       | 47%        |
| Sustainability initiatives             | 27%        |
| Ecology enhancements                   | 17%        |
| Surface Access                         | 14%        |
| Expand community engagement programmes | 11%        |
| Other                                  | 7%         |

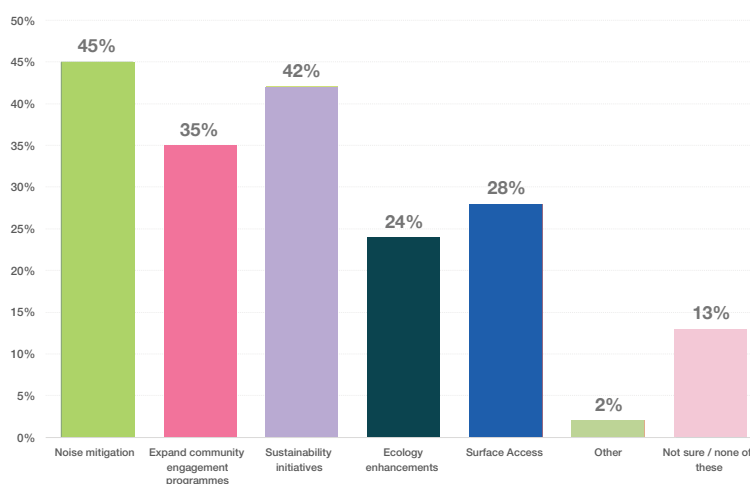


As with the previous question, respondents had the opportunity to select multiple answers to this question to ensure they could highlight all measures they would like Belfast City Airport to further target as part of the Master Plan process.

The most popular measures respondents would like Belfast City Airport to further target are: noise mitigation (47%) and sustainability initiatives (27%).

#### Passenger Responses:

| Response                               | Proportion |
|----------------------------------------|------------|
| Noise mitigation                       | 45%        |
| Expand community engagement programmes | 35%        |
| Sustainability initiatives             | 42%        |
| Ecology enhancements                   | 24%        |
| Surface Access                         | 28%        |
| Other                                  | 2%         |
| Not sure / none of these               | 13%        |



Again, passengers responding to the in-terminal survey were given the option of selecting multiple answers to this question to ensure they could highlight all measures they would like Belfast City Airport to further target as part of the Master Plan process.

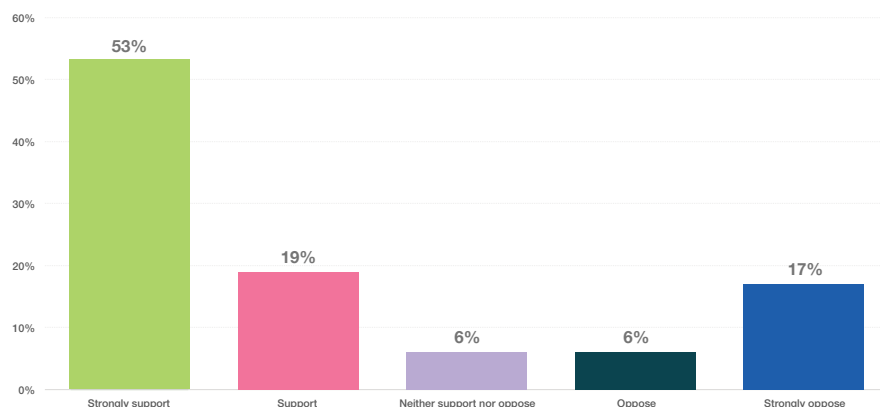
Similar to those who responded to the questionnaire either online or in hard copy form, amongst surveyed passengers, the most common measures respondents would like to see targeted further are: noise mitigation (45%), sustainability initiatives (42%) and expansion of community engagement programmes (35%).

## Theme: Support for emerging proposals

### 9. How would you rank your level of support for the emerging proposals in the draft Master Plan?

#### Public Responses:

| Response                   | Proportion |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Strongly support           | 53%        |
| Support                    | 19%        |
| Neither support nor oppose | 6%         |
| Oppose                     | 6%         |
| Strongly oppose            | 17%        |
| Other                      | 7%         |



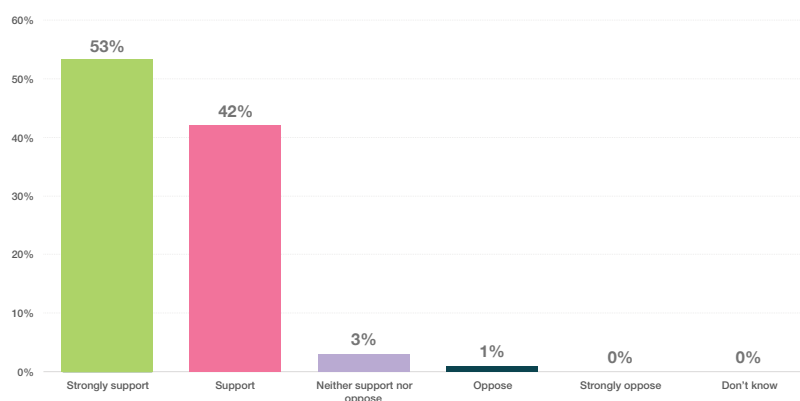
Of those who responded to the questionnaire, 72% of respondents stated their support for the emerging proposals within the draft Master Plan with 19% of respondents stated that they “support” and 53% of respondents stated that they “strongly support” the emerging proposals.

A total of 23% of respondents were unsupportive of the emerging proposals in the draft Master Plan, which included 6% of respondents who stated they “oppose” and a further 17% of respondents stated that they “strongly oppose” the emerging proposals.

6% of respondents to the questionnaire stated they “neither support nor oppose” the emerging proposals in the draft Master Plan.

#### Passenger Responses:

| Response                   | Proportion |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Strongly support           | 53%        |
| Support                    | 42%        |
| Neither support nor oppose | 3%         |
| Oppose                     | 1%         |
| Strongly oppose            | 0%         |
| Don't know                 | 0%         |
| Not sure / none of these   | 13%        |



Of the 619 passengers who took part in the in-terminal survey, 95% of respondents expressed their support, 42% stated they “support” the merging proposals and 53% stated they “strongly support” the emerging proposals.

Of the passengers who took part in the in-terminal survey, only 1% of respondents stated they “oppose” the emerging proposals, whilst no passengers stated they “strongly oppose” these proposals.

3% of passengers surveyed stated they “neither support nor oppose” the emerging proposals in the draft Master Plan.

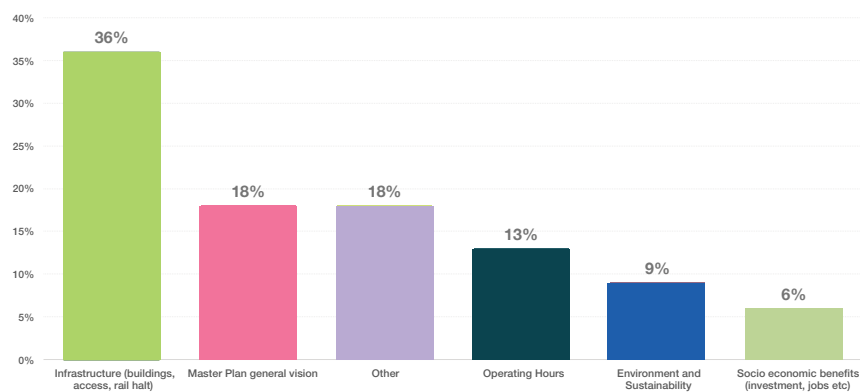
# Theme: Other comments / improvements

10.

Do you have any other suggestions on how we can improve our future vision as we finalise our Master Plan?

Public Responses:

| Response                                       | Proportion |
|------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Infrastructure (buildings, access, rail halt)  | 36%        |
| Master Plan general vision                     | 18%        |
| Other                                          | 18%        |
| Operating Hours                                | 13%        |
| Environment and Sustainability                 | 9%         |
| Socio economic benefits (investment, jobs etc) | 6%         |



Respondents used this opportunity to make us aware of a wide range of priorities, as illustrated by the chart above.

A sample of responses to this question is provided below, which is reflective of the breadth of priorities to the 356 respondents to the feedback questionnaire:

*“I have cycled to the airport, easily. Connecting to Victoria Park you could have one of the few airports in the world you can cycle to from the city centre. Cargo bikes and electric bicycles will increase in usage so catering for this makes sense. Belfast bikes from the airport to your accommodation would be so unique vs Dublin airport or International.”*

*“Connectivity to major European cities (Paris, Rome, Barcelona).”*

*“15 years is a very long drawn out period we need better transport etc now.”*

*“Extend the runway to get more European routes.”*

*“A modern & more capable City Airport/ transport links definitely needed to grow & prosper the city.”*

*“Extend the runway to get more European routes.”*

*“Make a plane spotting area for the youth and the avgeeks that would like it, it would also help inspire a youth generation of future aviation industry workers.”*

*“Very supportive of the proposal in terms of unlocking visitor numbers, improving connectivity & job opportunities. Do have some concerns re noise and late flights for local residents.”*

*“Expansion is not required this is a City airport! and should be contained at its current size. Aldergrove should be expanded to cope with any new flight requirements in the years ahead.”*

*“Automatic foreign announcements, such as the system Heathrow uses, with appropriate announcements in the relevant language of flights departing.”*

*“A greater number of gates with air bridges as currently only Gate 4 has one. The rest all mean going outside which in Belfast weather can be unpleasant. It also impacts people’s first impression.”*

*“Rail link top priority.”*

*“Change the name from George Best - not a great role model. What about Dame Mary Peters?”*

*“The new station must have lifts not just stairs for passengers with luggage and or limited mobility.”*

***“I think the “extension” to flight hours will need stronger guarantees they will not be exceeded. Also addressing how additional vehicles will be accommodated needs addressed as it is not enough to assume/hope more people will use public transport. I would also put more emphasis on the community partnerships.”***

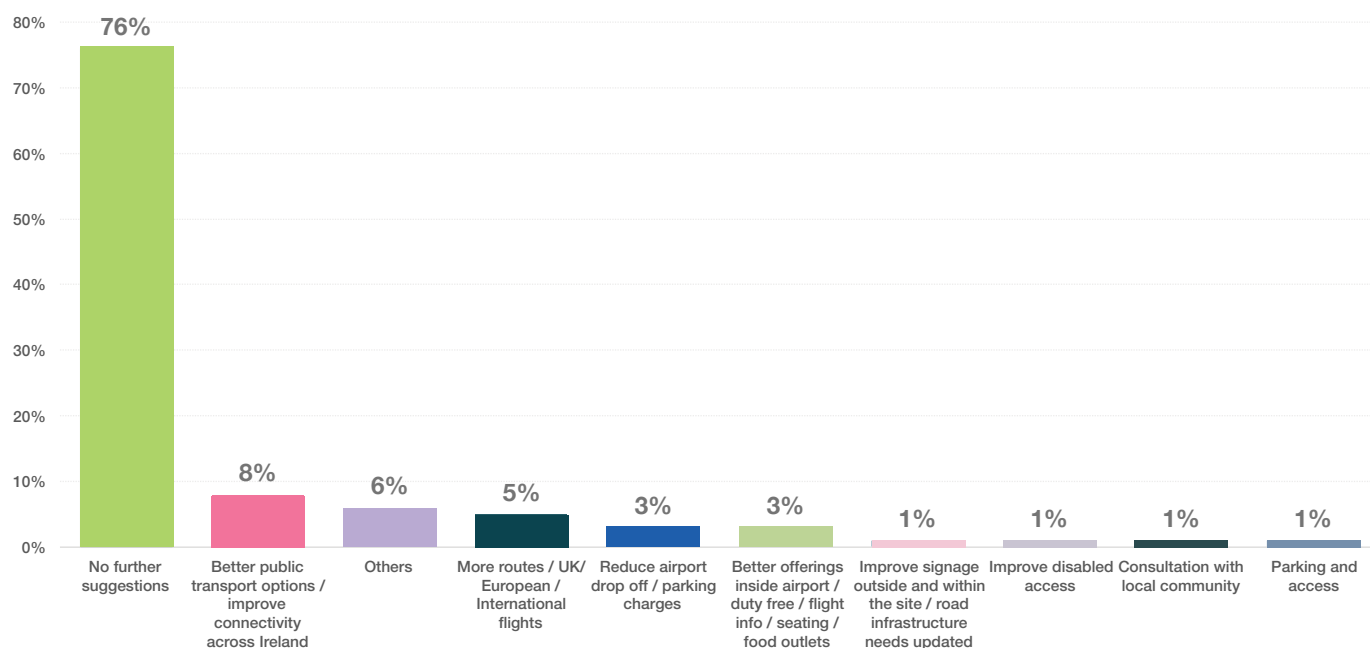
***“If there was a way for the Glider to link up at certain times of the day it would be very useful too.”***

***“The airport’s attempt to minimise the environmental impact on the ground is welcome but is annihilated by the negative impact of more planes pumping out pollutants at altitude.”***

#### Passenger Responses:

Passengers who took part in the in-terminal survey were given a multiple-choice option for this question, with an opportunity for additional feedback given. The table below gives a breakdown of the responses of surveyed passengers:

| Response                                                                           | Proportion |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| No further suggestions                                                             | 76%        |
| Better public transport options / improve connectivity across Ireland              | 8%         |
| Others                                                                             | 6%         |
| More routes / UK/ European / International flights                                 | 5%         |
| Reduce airport drop off / parking charges                                          | 3%         |
| Better offerings inside airport / duty free / flight info / seating / food outlets | 3%         |
| Improve signage outside and within the site / road infrastructure needs updated    | 1%         |
| Improve disabled access                                                            | 1%         |
| Consultation with local community                                                  | 1%         |
| Parking and access                                                                 | 1%         |



## Others

Those passengers who took the opportunity to provide further suggestions when selecting the ‘others’ box when completing the in-terminal survey provided the following feedback in the open comment section:

***“Don’t over expand the airport”***

***“Hire local people / more jobs”***

***“Greener landscaping”***

***“Solar panels”***

***“EV charging”***

# Key Themes & Responses

## Introduction

The Brown O'Connor team have reviewed and analysed all responses received during the consultation process and sought to identify the key themes. In many instances, individuals grouped or covered multiple interlinked themes in their responses.

The airport's technical team have supported the assessment of the feedback and responses provided below. The key themes and responses have also been taken into account and informed the final Master Plan, published alongside this report.

The key themes have been extracted and identified by the Brown O'Connor team from:

- Emails and letters sent to the airport directly during the consultation period and **frequency of issues mentioned**.
- Face-to-face engagement at the three community engagement events across Belfast and North Down identifying **recurring concerns**.
- **Feedback at meetings** with trade bodies, business stakeholders and airline representatives.
- Open box feedback in the consultation questionnaire distributed at the three engagement events identifying **priorities** that could influence any adjustment to the final Master Plan.
- **Feedback at meetings** with elected representatives at MP, MLA and local Councillor level.

## Noise

### Summary of Issue

General concerns over additional noise associated with aircraft movements

### Response

**The airport is committed to being a good neighbour and remains mindful of its operational impact, particularly in relation to noise. It operates a range of comprehensive measures designed to control and reduce noise and the associated potential effects on health and quality of life. These measures are outlined in detail in the airport's current Noise Action Plan.**

The airport's operations are currently controlled by a Planning Agreement with the Northern Ireland Department for Infrastructure (DfI), which includes restrictions on the extent of the noise that can be generated. The current Planning Agreement sets out a series of covenants and these are the most comprehensive for any airport in Northern Ireland.

**These include:**

Noise Contour Area Limit – this was set by DfI at a maximum of 5.2km<sup>2</sup> in order to control the total envelope of aircraft noise exposure from the airport (based on the 57 dB LAeq,16h contour). The current limit is sufficient to accommodate the anticipated growth to 2040.

Noise Quota Count System – this limits the number of Air Transport Movements (ATMs) based on the noise performance of the aircraft (the quieter the aircraft, the larger the number of aircraft that can be flown within the limit) – this incentivises airlines to fly quieter aircraft at Belfast City. The limit is currently set at 4,665 annually – this is also sufficient to accommodate anticipated growth to 2040.

The noise assessment carried out to inform the draft Master Plan provided evidence to demonstrate that the forecast uplift in aircraft movements over the next 15 years can be accommodated within the airport's existing noise contour area limit. This will be facilitated by an increase in the number of cleaner, quieter new generation aircraft operating at the airport by 2040.

Should there be any future detailed proposals to deliver some or all of the Master Plan 2040 vision, including an increase in the ATM limits, a more detailed assessment of noise impacts would be carried out to support any Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). As part of that process, the airport would bring forward a mitigation package which would include targeted improvements to the existing Noise Insulation Scheme (NIS) aligned with relevant policy and industry benchmarks.

Concerns regarding any potential noise impact as a result of additional flights were raised primarily at the community engagement event held in Holywood. In comparison, this issue was highlighted less commonly at the community engagement event held in East Belfast, and was raised by less than 5 people who attended the community engagement event held in South Belfast.

## Operating Hours

### Summary of Issue

- Concerns about scheduling any aircraft movements beyond the current 21:30 limit
- Uncertainty whether scheduled aircraft movements would occur up to and including 23:59 and what that would mean if aircraft were delayed beyond 23:59
- Lack of clarity regarding current regulatory regime for operating hours, and how this is reported to the Department for Infrastructure

### Response

**As outlined in the draft Master Plan, the airport is exploring adjustments to its operating hours to allow for some additional scheduled flights beyond the current 15-hour daily window but not beyond the 23:59 limit or prior to the existing start time of 06:30.**

Greater flexibility to operate scheduled flights beyond 21:30 will allow airlines to effectively serve demand, operate more routes and reduce airline and passenger disruption by avoiding diversions to other airports, reducing cancellations and ensuring that aircraft are correctly positioned for flights the next day. Importantly, more flexibility will help create the necessary conditions for airlines to invest in cleaner, quieter, new generation aircraft.

A number of attendees at the Holywood community engagement event raised concerns that scheduling flights up to 23:59 would result in frequent delayed departures and arrivals beyond midnight. The airport team clarified that would not be the case and that no flights, scheduled or delayed, would operate between 23:59 and 06:30 each day.

The team also explained the current regulatory regime and covenants in the Planning Agreement relating to operating hours, which are governed and enforced by DfI. Scheduled flights are permitted to take off and land until 21:30. Between 21:31 and 23:59 (defined as 'extended hours'), departures and arrivals can be accommodated for delayed flights, but only in 'exceptional circumstances', which the airport tracks and reports to DfI.

Should there be any future detailed proposals to deliver some or all of the Master Plan 2040 vision, including additional flexibility to schedule aircraft movements beyond 21:30, a more detailed assessment of noise impacts would be carried out to support any EIA. As part of that process, the airport would bring forward a mitigation package which would include targeted improvements to the existing NIS aligned with relevant policy and industry benchmarks.

The airport will also consider measures to accelerate the transition to quieter, new generation aircraft by incentivising airlines to operate these aircraft types (or turboprops) on any scheduled movements beyond 21:30.

## Aircraft Movements

### Summary of Issue

- Concerns regarding uplift in aircraft movements from the current limit of 48,000 ATMs annually
- Suggestions that increase would result in a “doubling of flights overnight”

### Response

Historically, the airport welcomed around 42,500 aircraft movements prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, but due to a move away from a single turboprop operator to a more resilient mix of airlines, aircraft sizes have increased and therefore aircraft movements remain lower than pre-pandemic levels. However, as the airport grows towards 7 million passengers per annum (mppa) by 2040, the current movement limit is likely to be reached by the early 2030s and will need to be increased to allow for the delivery of the Master Plan.

While passenger numbers are predicted to grow from 2.4mppa to 7mppa over the next 15 years, the rate of growth in annual aircraft movements will be less pronounced (growing from around 31,000 to around 61,000). The rate of increase in ATMs is lower than the rate of passenger growth due to many of the future flights being on newer generation aircraft. In addition to being quieter, these aircraft also have more seats than the older generation aircraft. For example, it is expected that the average movement will carry 115 passengers by 2040, compared with 80 today.

If the airport cannot unlock capacity constraints and meet demand in a timely manner, the lost opportunity and implications would be material, with constraints limiting domestic and international connectivity as soon as the early 2030s.

## Arrival of New Generation Aircraft

### Summary of Issue

Some scepticism about the prospects and timing of new generation aircraft being used at Belfast City Airport

### Response

**Growth within the existing noise contour limit is possible due to the ongoing transition to cleaner, quieter, more fuel-efficient aircraft across the aviation industry. This is supported by aircraft certification and by measurement.**

These narrow-body, single-aisle jets include aircraft types such as the Airbus A320neo, A321neo and the Embraer 190-E2. While the new generation aircraft don't look dissimilar to the older variants, they are noticeably quieter and have more seats.

There are relatively few new generation aircraft currently operating at Belfast City Airport, albeit the A320neo is used at times by easyJet and British Airways, while the Embraer 190-E2 has previously flown at the airport by KLM.

The proportion of new generation aircraft in the fleet is expected to grow from 7% today to 60% by 2040 based on the anticipated delivery of these new generation aircraft, reinforced by the incentives that the airport is considering to encourage airlines to operate an even higher proportion of new generation aircraft.

The ATR turboprop aircraft currently operated by Emerald and Loganair already have a lower noise footprint than older jet aircraft and a similar noise footprint to new generation aircraft. It is expected that turboprops will continue to play an important role over the Master Plan period, hence the transition to a new generation fleet, based on existing airline fleet plans, will facilitate growth within existing noise limits and share the benefits of quieter aircraft with the local community.

The Master Plan growth to 7mppa will only be realised if airlines introduce more new generation aircraft into the fleet at Belfast City Airport. Without the transition to 60% new generation aircraft, growth would be limited below 61,000 ATMs. It is expected that additional flexibility to schedule aircraft movements beyond 21:30 will further accelerate and incentivise the transition to more new generation aircraft, as airlines would be able to utilize their assets more effectively and further support the significant investment in new aircraft.

## Environmental Concerns – Additional Flights and Impacts on Climate Change

### Summary of Issue

Concerns regarding the impact on the environment from additional flights

### Response

**The Preliminary Environmental Report (PER) which accompanies the Master Plan demonstrates that the airport can grow to 7mppa and 61,000 aircraft movements without giving rise to significant environmental effects or any breaches of statutory limits.**

**Should there be any future application to deliver some or all of the Master Plan 2040 vision, a more detailed assessment of the potential environmental effects would be carried out to support any EIA.**

As the airport grows, it will ensure that this occurs in a sustainable and responsible way and will seek to avoid, reduce or mitigate any additional adverse impacts, both during any future construction phase and from ongoing operations.

The airport is committed to reducing the carbon emissions from its own operations by 2040 - already achieving a 44% reduction since 2019.

Already the airport has taken steps in reducing Scope 1 and 2 Green House Gas (GHG) emissions (location-based) by 13.29% between 2023 and 2024.

For emissions from flights, UK policy is clear that it should be considered on a national level. As the airport expands its route network, there will be increased carbon emissions associated with aviation movements but the UK's Jet Zero Strategy is clear that delivery of net zero for air travel by 2050 can be achieved, without limiting passenger growth. The UK Emissions Trading Scheme (UK ETS) sets a cap on emissions from flights within the UK or from the UK to the European Economic Area (EEA), plus energy intensive industries and the power generation sector. This means that if an airline wants to increase its emissions, it must ensure that total emissions remain below the cap by, if necessary, paying for another company within the ETS to reduce its emissions. The Government intends to reduce this cap over time to ensure that it can achieve its targets, as set out in sequential 5-year carbon budgets, to meet its statutory 'net zero by 2050' obligation under the Climate Change Act 2008. As the vast majority of flights (>98%) from the airport are to other UK or EEA destinations, these will fall under and be controlled by the UK ETS.

In addition, the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) has set up the 'Carbon Offset and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation' (CORSIA) scheme, which requires that any increases in international aviation emissions beyond 85% of 2019 levels must be offset. Virtually all flights from the airport which are not covered by the UK ETS are covered by CORSIA.

Were the airport not able to offer more flights and routes in the future, passengers would most likely choose to fly from other airports such as Dublin Airport. The consequence of this would be that these emissions would simply be 'displaced' to another location, with the potential for greater emissions overall due to the longer journeys associated with accessing these other airports.

Moreover, on a 'per passenger' basis, emissions are likely to reduce considerably due to the introduction of larger and more fuel-efficient new generation aircraft as well as uptake of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF).

## General Airport Expansion

### Summary of Issue

General comments that the airport expansion goes against environmental priorities and sustainability commitments

### Response

**In redeveloping the airport campus, the airport will incorporate a range of environmental and sustainability enhancements, some of which are not technically feasible or cost effective at the airport in its present form. The Master Plan and accompanying PER demonstrate how growth of the airport could give rise to significant socio-economic, environmental and sustainability benefits in compliance with prevailing policy and best practice guidance, and as enshrined in the airport's sustainability strategy and future commitments.**

The Master Plan will allow further improvement on performance, including the potential to meet net zero targets for airport operations up to 10 years earlier than previously planned, coupled with achieving greater efficiencies in waste, water, energy and resource management. The Master Plan also includes measures to protect and enhance the natural environment, including achieving a net gain in biodiversity and incorporating sustainable drainage systems across the airport site.

The environmental impacts of the airport are already effectively managed, with no significant pollution incidents or breaches of environmental controls or legislative standards having occurred for many years. Given the largely industrial setting of the airport and bias for flights over Belfast Lough, impacts on the local community are carefully managed.

The airport has achieved 93% in the Global Real Estate Sustainability Benchmark (GRESB), allowing for benchmarking of its performance against other airports.

Among other measures, it is proposed that the airport plans the use of solar panels to deliver some of the airport's energy needs, collaborating with partners on the Future of Flight by working with industry in Northern Ireland to progress pilot initiatives for end users of hydrogen, including airfield operations and zero emission and electric flights.

## Environmental Concerns – Potential Surface Access Impacts

### Summary of Issue

Concerns regarding additional passengers and private vehicles contributing to traffic congestion and ultimately a negative impact on the environment

### Response

**The airport is currently rolling out a series of measures and targets aimed at increasing public transport use and reducing the proportion of car trips to and from the airport in the short term. Over the longer term to 2040, measures to facilitate improved use of public transport will include capping the amount of future parking. This will accelerate the move towards more sustainable forms of travel to and from the airport.**

The Master Plan shows potential improvements including a new entry slip lane from the Sydenham Bypass for northbound traffic and altering the existing airport entrance to provide a dual right-hand turn lane for southbound traffic. These interventions would help limit congestion during morning and evening peak hours and when the airport is at its busiest. With regard to noise and exhaust emissions from traffic, the PER finds that increases in noise will not be discernible to the human ear (<1dB) and that air quality at the airport and on local roads will remain comfortably within the national objective values set by the UK Government.

As explained in the draft Master Plan, to support the airfield and terminal infrastructure, improvements will also be made to the airport site to include a new forecourt prioritising public transport and improved access and parking facilities.

This investment can deliver a broader set of benefits to the airport and the local community, making it more attractive to passengers for convenience, and to airlines for greater passenger numbers.

## Opportunity to become first rail connected airport on the island

### Summary of Issue

- Strong public support for delivery of a new rail halt directly connected to the airport terminal
- Queries regarding the deliverability of a new rail halt as part of overall Master Plan and who would fund it
- Clarity sought on whether the potential rail halt is essential to unlock the airport's growth to 7mppa

### Response

**There has been an overwhelmingly positive response and significant interest to the opportunity for a new rail halt directly serving the terminal.**

The feedback received throughout the consultation period welcomes the opportunity for potential rail halt, but there were some limited (less than 5) comments questioning whether a new halt is deliverable.

As outlined in the Master Plan, the airport has recently partnered with Translink to conclude a feasibility study for a new rail halt directly linking the airport with Belfast city centre on the Bangor line.

This could potentially see the airport become the first airport on the island to have a direct rail connection and build on the recently published feasibility study that confirmed it is possible. It would also transform how people get to and from the airport with quicker and more sustainable journeys to and from Belfast city centre. While it is not required to deliver the Master Plan, it is a unique, once in a generation, opportunity to transform public transport and create a quick, convenient and iconic new direct connection between the airport and Grand Central Station in the city centre.

The airport and Translink continue to work in a public private partnership to progress the business case and further examine the opportunity for a new halt.

## Timescales

### Summary of Issue

Comments regarding timescales to deliver the vision set out in the draft Master Plan

### Response

**The airport last produced a Master Plan in 2006. Much has changed since then. The new Master Plan sets out how the airport can respond to the predicted growth in passenger demand across the island of Ireland and how it can continue to play a vital role in contributing to the Northern Ireland economy over the next 15 years.**

To deliver the ambition set out in the Master Plan, the airport will need to secure the necessary consents from the relevant authorities in the first instance. As with any strategic infrastructure project of this nature and scale, the process will require comprehensive design and assessment to be undertaken. It may be that any subsequent investment is phased over the Master Plan period to ensure that the airport can continue to operate while additional growth is facilitated over time.

## Runway Extension

### Summary of Issue

Comments in support of extending the runway to facilitate further growth, and comments in opposition to any extension to the runway

### Response

**In line with UK Government policy to make best use of existing runways, the draft Master Plan included targeted upgrades to the passenger terminal, airfield aprons and taxiways.**

While domestic UK travel will still account for over 60% of the airport's business by 2040, most growth will come from improved connections to global cities and European hubs as well as leisure destinations.

Notwithstanding the expected increase in international services, it is not anticipated that any runway extension would be required to reach 7mppa due to the improved performance of more modern aircraft.

## Facilitating Growth Elsewhere

### Summary of Issue

- Comments that the airport should only be for business travel and not leisure
- Suggestion that passenger growth could and should be facilitated at other Northern Ireland airports

### Response

**The market for air travel to and from the island of Ireland is forecast to double from just over 45 million passengers in 2024 to over 90 million passengers by 2040.**

It is estimated that Northern Ireland's airports will need to handle around 21 million of these journeys, taking into account the likely delivery of additional capacity at Dublin Airport. Given its attractive location and proximity to the city centre, the airport will be critical to meeting this need. Alongside anticipated growth at Belfast City, the expansion will enable Northern Ireland's airports to claw back much of the local demand that currently uses Dublin due to limitations on the range and frequency of services offered. It is forecast that the airport will reach 7mppa over the Master Plan period.

## Financing the draft Master Plan

### Summary of Issue

- Queries whether public funding is required to deliver the Master Plan
- Comments regarding the deliverability of vision set out in the draft Master Plan

### Response

**The delivery of the Master Plan has the potential to unlock private investment of up to £200 million, representing one of the biggest injections of funding ever into one of Northern Ireland's key infrastructure assets. The investment in the airport campus would not require any public funding.**

Supporting infrastructure outside of the boundary of the airport is likely to require funding from the organisations and agencies responsible for its development. This includes the potential new rail halt that has the potential to connect passengers directly to the airport in a 'first of its kind' project on the island of Ireland.

This investment will supercharge the local economy, not just Belfast, but across the region.

## George Best Name

### Summary of Issue

Comments regarding the desire to see the removal of “George Best” name, and comments regarding the desire to see the retention of “George Best” name in the signage of the airport terminal

### Response

**During the consultation period, the airport was undertaking a major marketing campaign that centres on the promotion of the ‘fast’ in Belfast, its prime location and reliable service.**

The images shown in the draft Master Plan are an illustrative future vision of the airport which could be unlocked through private investment of up to £200m.

The George Best name is mentioned in the history timeline within the draft Master Plan. There are no plans to remove the George Best signage which sits above the entrance to the passenger terminal building.

## Job Creation

### Summary of Issue

Queries regarding what types of jobs will be created in line with the growth of the airport

### Response

**By growing to handle 7mppa by 2040 the airport is projected to generate £1.2 billion in GVA\* for Belfast annually and support over 15,000 jobs in the city.**

Across Northern Ireland as a whole, the airport's growth to 2040 is projected to generate £1.7 billion in GVA annually and support over 23,000 jobs.

Over 1,100 new jobs will be created at the airport site, growing the total employment at the airport to 2,260.

The 1,100 new positions will span a wide range of functions and skill levels, creating clear pathways for workforce upskilling and aligning with Government priorities on skills and employment.

They will also make a proactive contribution to addressing the business critical skills shortage currently experienced and highlighted by airline partners, across the aviation sector.

The airport plans to create a new employment academy with an aspiration to deliver up to 15% of new jobs through apprenticeships – working with key partners and educational organisations to create meaningful training and employment opportunities.

Partnerships with supply chain partners and education and training providers will support skills development in niche airport operations to include aviation, logistics, hospitality, and customer service, creating a highly-skilled, resilient local workforce.

Airport development creates jobs directly in construction and operations, while also stimulating employment in tourism, retail, and the service sector. Targeted investment will ensure new opportunities are maximised through the creation of bespoke pathways to training and employment – especially for young people and the long-term unemployed.

\*GVA - A measure of the economic contribution of a business or sector to the wider economy.

## Consultation Process

### Summary of Issue

Comments regarding the validity of the consultation process undertaken

### Response

**This consultation process was non-statutory and related to a draft Master Plan proposed and managed by the airport.**

There are no prescribed consultation requirements; however, this process was planned and delivered using best practice, following effective consultation and engagement techniques often used in the statutory process.

Requirements on pre-application community consultation by DfI outline that there should be at least one in-person event and a dedicated website as part of the statutory process.

The airport carefully planned the launch of the draft Master Plan and brought forward a process that considered the need to publish the draft Master Plan in a high profile way, advertising the consultation events in the national media and engaging with the public and stakeholders at three in-person events across Belfast City and North Down, with a dedicated website with detailed information.

All activity carried out as part of the consultation process exceeded the minimum requirements for statutory planning applications.

## Validity of Consultation Information

### Summary of Issue

Comments regarding the validity of the information in the draft Master Plan

### Response

**As part of this Master Plan process, the airport commissioned a demand forecast for the next 15 years to 2040. This analysis was carried out by the same experts that DfE used for its forthcoming aviation strategy assessment.**

The draft Master Plan is supported by a PER which provides more information on the environmental effects arising from the proposals as well as mitigations. Both documents have been prepared with input from technical experts and based on current legislative and policy requirements.

The draft Master Plan is considered to include the appropriate level of detail to inform what a high-level Master Plan should include. Any future proposal that emerges from this consultation process would be subject to further impact assessments as part of a statutory consultation process.

# Appendices

**Appendix 1:**

Invitation to the draft Master Plan launch at Parliament Buildings

**Appendix 2:**

Press release announcing the draft Master Plan and public consultation period

**Appendix 3:**

Newspaper advertisements and public notices relating to the consultation period

**Appendix 4:**

Digital assets published across Belfast City Airport social media platforms

**Appendix 5:**

Digital assets issued by elected representatives to notify the public of the community engagement events

**Appendix 6:**

Belfast City Airport Community News September Edition

**Appendix 7:**

Questionnaire used at community engagement events and on the dedicated website

**Appendix 8:**

Image suite capturing each of the three community engagement events

**Appendix 9:**

Information boards displayed at the community engagement events

**Appendix 10:**

Pictures of the information station and branded walls in-terminal at Belfast City Airport

# Appendix 1



## Invitation to the draft Master Plan launch at Parliament Buildings

*Invitation*

### BELFAST CITY AIRPORT LAUNCH OF DRAFT MASTER PLAN 2040

Join us for the launch of consultation on our draft Master Plan vision to enhance Northern Ireland's air connectivity, invest in local infrastructure and increase economic growth in a sustainable and responsible way.

|              |                                                  |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <b>VENUE</b> | The Long Gallery, Parliament Buildings, Stormont |
| <b>DATE</b>  | Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> September 2025          |
| <b>TIME</b>  | 12.30pm – 2pm                                    |
| <b>HOST</b>  | Journalist and Broadcaster, Jim Fitzpatrick      |

Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

RSVP to Mark Hynes at Brown O'Connor Communications at [mark@brownconnor.com](mailto:mark@brownconnor.com) by Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September to confirm attendance and advise us of any dietary requirements.

*This invite is intended for the recipient only and is non-transferable.*



# Appendix 2



## Press release announcing the draft Master Plan and public consultation period



**Belfast City Airport**

**Press Release**

**16<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

### **BELFAST CITY AIRPORT LAUNCHES TRANSFORMATIONAL DRAFT MASTER PLAN 2040 CONSULTATION**

Belfast City Airport has today unveiled its transformational draft Master Plan 2040, that has the potential to unlock up to £200 million in private investment, support thousands of new jobs and deliver a £1.7 billion injection into the Northern Ireland economy annually.

The draft plan also shows an exciting opportunity to deliver a new rail halt to potentially become the first airport on the island of Ireland to be connected by rail.

The airport is seeking views on its vision for growth over the next 15 years, which includes extended terminal and airfield facilities, surface access improvements and complementary development, which could include a hotel and increased EV charging facilities.

Aviation analysts predict demand for air travel across the island of Ireland will double to 90 million passengers per year by 2040. That will require Belfast City Airport to grow to 7 million passengers over the same period, ensuring Belfast retains and expands its connectivity to the UK and Europe.

The draft plan would double the airport's workforce to over 2,200 and facilitate growth of its apprenticeship academy and award-winning community engagement programme. It would also accelerate key sustainability ambitions, including the airport's journey to net zero.

# Appendix 2



## Press release announcing the draft Master Plan and public consultation period

Matthew Hall, Chief Executive of Belfast City Airport, said:

“Delivery of our Master Plan is a once-in-a-generation opportunity that will benefit passengers and businesses across the region, whilst delivering key elements of the Northern Ireland Executive’s Programme for Government.

“The economic benefits from delivery of our Master Plan will be significant. By 2040, we could generate £1.7billion in GVA for Northern Ireland and support over 23,000 jobs across the region, including over 1,100 new roles at the airport campus.

“Every airport on the island of Ireland will need to play its part in meeting future demand, and this draft Master Plan exemplifies Belfast City Airport’s commitment to doing so, while reinforcing our position as a vital economic enabler for the region.

“We want more passengers to arrive by public transport and leave their cars at home, hence a focus on greener journeys within the Master Plan.

“We’ve recently entered a pioneering public-private partnership with Translink to conclude a feasibility study for a new rail halt linking the airport with Belfast city centre on the Bangor line. We look forward to further exploring this initiative.”

At the heart of the draft Master Plan is a commitment to protect the local community by accommodating all growth within the airport’s current noise contour limit.

The airport is exploring limited flexibility in the evening, to allow some additional scheduled flights for a period after 21:30, but not beyond the current 23:59 limit for delayed flights. This would enable airlines to operate the necessary routes, give passengers more choice and avoid disruption or cancellations. Importantly, it would encourage airlines to accelerate investment in cleaner, quieter, new generation aircraft.

First Minister Michelle O’Neill said:

“Belfast City Airport is more than just a gateway it is a major part of our economy. It supports hundreds of jobs, boosts local businesses and helps drive tourism.

“This master plan shows great ambition and a really bold vision for the future. I look forward to seeing how this next chapter unfolds and the positive impact it will have on our people, visitors and generations to come.”

# Appendix 2



## Press release announcing the draft Master Plan and public consultation period

Deputy First Minister Emma Little-Pengelly said:

“The Belfast City Airport Master Plan has the potential to deliver huge benefits for Northern Ireland. Growing a globally and sustainable economy is a priority for us and this plan aligns seamlessly with this as it will drive connectivity and support future economic growth. It will also strengthen our tourism sector, support employment and reinforce Northern Ireland’s position as a great place to work, live, visit and invest in.”

To deliver the benefits of growth to 7 million passengers a year by 2040, the airport is also seeking views on moving the annual cap on aircraft movements from 48,000 to 61,000.

The airport does not anticipate that a runway extension would be required.

Clare Guinness, Chief Executive of Belfast Chamber, said:

“The contribution that Belfast City Airport makes to local business, tourism and the community is significant. Connectivity is critical to Belfast’s economic success, and the airport is a strategic economic asset that our members and wider society rely on as a lifeline for commerce and business. Belfast is a city on the rise and that requires the City airport to be ready to help us unlock our future potential in the next decade and beyond.”

Colin Neill, Chief Executive of Hospitality Ulster, commented:

“Greater air connectivity is central to making sure we can attract more visitors to spend more time here in Northern Ireland. The hospitality sector is the backbone of the tourism economy and hospitality business owners work hard to deliver our world class offer.

“We welcome future investment and enhanced capacity at Belfast City Airport as this will have a direct positive impact in bringing more visitors to sample our world class pubs, restaurants and attractions, staying longer and spending more. We look forward to seeing the potential development of the airport strengthening our reputation as a destination of choice for visitors from GB, Europe and the rest of the world.”

Matthew Hall concluded:

“If Belfast City is not able to meet growth in passenger demand, there will be constraints on Northern Ireland’s air connectivity which would frustrate ambitions to improve economic productivity, increase foreign direct investment, grow tourism and create more jobs through activity at the airport.

# Appendix 2



## Press release announcing the draft Master Plan and public consultation period

“We value and are seeking the views of our community on our draft Master Plan. We will consider all feedback before publishing the final plan early next year.”

The draft Master Plan is open for public consultation until 11 November 2025. The full document can be viewed at [belfastcityairport.com/vision](https://belfastcityairport.com/vision). Members of the public can submit their views within the dedicated website linked above, in writing, or by attending one of the forthcoming community engagement events:

- **Thursday 2 October 2025** – Riddell Hall, QUB, South Belfast (2–4pm & 6–8pm)
- **Thursday 9 October 2025** – Templemore Baths, East Belfast (2–4pm & 6–8pm)
- **Thursday 16 October 2025** – Hollywood Library, North Down (2–4pm & 6–8pm)

**ENDS**

# Appendix 3



## Newspaper advertisements and public notices relating to the consultation period

Public Notices

### Belfast City Airport Community Engagement Events

Belfast City Airport has launched a consultation on its draft Master Plan vision to enhance Northern Ireland's air connectivity, invest in local infrastructure and support economic growth in a sustainable and responsible way.

We are now seeking views on our draft Master Plan. There are a number of ways in which you can provide your valuable feedback. These include:

- Via our dedicated consultation website at [belfastcityairport.com/vision](http://belfastcityairport.com/vision)
- In writing, by sending feedback to: Master Plan Team, Belfast City Airport, Sydenham Bypass, Belfast BT3 9JH
- By meeting with members of the Master Plan team in person at one of the following information events:

- **Thursday 2 October 2025**, Riddell Hall, 185 Stranmillis Road, Belfast BT9 5EE
  - Afternoon session: 2pm – 4pm
  - Evening session: 6pm – 8pm
- **Thursday 9 October 2025**, Templemore Baths, 96 Templemore Avenue, Belfast BT5 4FW
  - Afternoon session: 2pm – 4pm
  - Evening session: 6pm – 8pm
- **Thursday 16 October 2025**, Holywood Library, Sullivan Building, 86-88 High Street, Holywood, BT18 9AE
  - Afternoon session: 2pm – 4pm
  - Evening session: 6pm – 8pm

Feedback on this draft Master Plan is welcome for a period of 8 weeks up to 11 November 2025.

PUBLIC NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICES

#### BELFAST CITY AIRPORT DRAFT MASTER PLAN 2040 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Belfast City Airport has launched a consultation on its draft Master Plan vision to enhance Northern Ireland's air connectivity, invest in local infrastructure and support economic growth in a sustainable and responsible way.

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**BELFAST CITY AIRPORT**

### PUBLIC NOTICE – BELFAST CITY AIRPORT DRAFT MASTER PLAN 2040 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

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  - Afternoon session: 2pm – 4pm
  - Evening session: 6pm – 8pm

Feedback on this draft Master Plan is welcome for a period of 8 weeks up to 11 November 2025.

LEGAL NOTICES

### BELFAST CITY AIRPORT DRAFT MASTER PLAN 2040 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Belfast City Airport has launched a consultation on its draft Master Plan vision to enhance Northern Ireland's air connectivity, invest in local infrastructure and support economic growth in a sustainable and responsible way.

We are now seeking views on our draft Master Plan. There are a number of ways in which you can provide your valuable feedback. These include:

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Feedback on this draft Master Plan is welcome for a period of 8 weeks up to 11 November 2025.

# Appendix 4

## Digital assets published across Belfast City Airport social media platforms

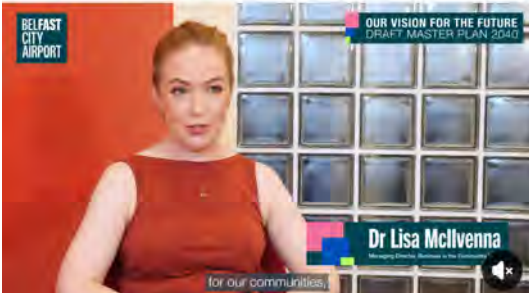
### Facebook

**Belfast City Airport** 5d · 🌐

Belfast City Airport's draft Master Plan sets out a clear, responsible vision for the next 15 years. One which ensures sustainable growth, supports local jobs, and strengthens Northern Ireland's economy.

We're proud to have the support of business leaders including Dr Lisa McIlvenna, Managing Director at [Business in the Community Northern Ireland](#), as we continue building a business that benefits both people and place.

The consultation on our draft Master Plan remains open until 11 November for those who wish to play a role in shaping our future. <https://bit.ly/OurVisionForTheFuture>



**Belfast City Airport** 15 Oct · 🌐

Belfast City Airport's draft Master Plan is set to drive economic growth across the region, creating new opportunities for businesses, boosting connectivity, and supporting jobs 🚀

It's easy to see why business leaders including Stephen McKeown, Managing Director of Allstate NI, are showing their support - the plan is helping build a stronger, more connected Northern Ireland.

To find out more, or to have your say, visit: <https://bit.ly/OurVisionForTheFuture>



**Belfast City Airport** 29 Oct · 🌐

Thanks to everyone who joined us for our Community Engagement Event at Holywood Library - your views are helping shape transformational change for the airport, the economy & our community. Here's some of the highlights 🎥

There's still time to have your say on our vision for the future! Visit our website to find out more: <https://bit.ly/OurVisionForTheFuture>



**Belfast City Airport** 3d · 🌐

With £200 million in potential private investment, our draft Master Plan presents a significant opportunity to strengthen Northern Ireland's connection to the global market and open new pathways for international trade and growth.

Roger Pollen, Head of the [Federation of Small Businesses - FSB](#), shares why improved links, both to the UK and the wider world, are vital to supporting our businesses and fostering local talent.

By strengthening our connections, we can help Northern Ireland's businesses thrive on the global stage!

We'd love to hear your feedback on our plans. Have your say now: <https://bit.ly/OurVisionForTheFuture>



# Appendix 4



## Digital assets published across Belfast City Airport social media platforms


**Belfast City Airport**
4d · 🌐

Our draft Master Plan outlines 15 years of ambitious growth, benefitting, not only the region and its people, but creating greater opportunities for education, research, and innovation.

Professor Margaret Topping from [Queen's University Belfast](#) shares how increased international connectivity is vital for attracting global talent and supporting international students.

Have your say! There's still time to share your thoughts before the consultation period closes on 11th November: <https://bit.ly/OurVisionForTheFuture>



**OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE  
DRAFT MASTER PLAN 2040**

**Professor Margaret Topping**  
Professor of International Business, Queen's University Belfast

has an ambitious growth plan


**Belfast City Airport**
13 Oct · 🌐

Belfast City Airport has launched its draft Master Plan, setting out a bold vision for the future, driven by a potential private investment of £200m.

This will not only enhance the functionality of the airport and improve the experience for passengers, but it will also deliver lasting benefits for Northern Ireland's economy, connectivity, and global reputation.

As a key asset for Northern Ireland, we continue to play a vital role in connecting people, businesses, and opportunities.

Find out more: <https://bit.ly/OurVisionForTheFuture>



**OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE  
DRAFT MASTER PLAN 2040**

**Colin Neill**  
CEO, Passenger's Voice


**Belfast City Airport**
14 Oct · 🌐

North Down 📍

We'd love to hear your thoughts on our draft Master Plan. Join us at our Community Engagement Event on Thursday 16th October to have your say!

To find out more about our vision for the future, visit: <https://bit.ly/OurVisionForTheFuture>



**North Down  
HAVE YOUR SAY!  
DRAFT MASTER PLAN 2040**

**Belfast City Airport's vision for the future.**  
Share your views and help us shape the future of Belfast City Airport.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT**

**16 OCT**

Thursday 16 October 2025  
2pm-4pm & 6pm-9pm  
Hollywood Library, North Down

You will be able to submit written feedback at this event.

Visit the dedicated consultation website: [belfastcityairport.com/vision](https://belfastcityairport.com/vision)

**BELFAST CITY AIRPORT**


**Belfast City Airport**
23 Oct · 🌐

With up to £200 million in potential private investment, our draft Master Plan outlines an ambitious vision to transform our facilities – enhancing connectivity, creating opportunities, and benefiting communities across Northern Ireland.

Here's what's proposed:

- ✈️ An extended terminal to improve the passenger experience
- 🚆 The opportunity for a potential new rail halt directly serving the airport
- 🚗 A multi-modal forecourt with enhanced transport links
- ⚡ Opportunities to maximise onsite renewables
- 🏨 Complementary developments including a new hotel and EV charging forecourt

We're seeking feedback on our draft Master Plan until 11th November 2025.

Have your say! Share your views and help shape transformational change for the airport, our community, and economy: <https://bit.ly/OurVisionForTheFuture>



# Appendix 4

## Digital assets published across Belfast City Airport social media platforms

### Instagram



belfastcityairport

Original audio



212 11 3 52

belfastcityairport Our vision for the future

Today, we launched our draft Master Plan 2040, outlining how we will grow responsibly to accommodate up to 7 million passengers a year.

By 2040, our Master Plan will:

- 🔓 Unlock a potential £200m investment
- 💰 Contribute £1.7bn to the NI economy
- 🌐 Enhance air connectivity to key UK & European destinations
- 🚗 Transform public transport (with the opportunity to explore a new rail halt ••)
- 👥 Support 23,000+ jobs across the region
- 💡 Create 1,100+ new jobs at the airport
- 🌱 Accelerate our sustainability ambitions
- 🎓 Deliver an employment academy with more apprenticeships

Have your say & help us shape the future of Belfast City Airport. Find out more & share your views using the link in our bio.



belfastcityairport

Belfast City Airport



1,289 43 14 273

belfastcityairport To meet our forecasted demand of 7m passengers a year by 2040, we need to deliver world-class passenger & terminal facilities... more

16 September



belfastcityairport



169 6 5 5

belfastcityairport #ICYMI - last week, we launched our draft Master Plan, outlining how we can grow responsibly to serve up to 7 million passengers a year by 2040 - creating jobs, attracting investment, and strengthening connectivity, all while keeping sustainability at the heart of our plans ✈️

Have your say! Share your views and help shape transformational change for the airport, our community, and economy using the link in our bio.

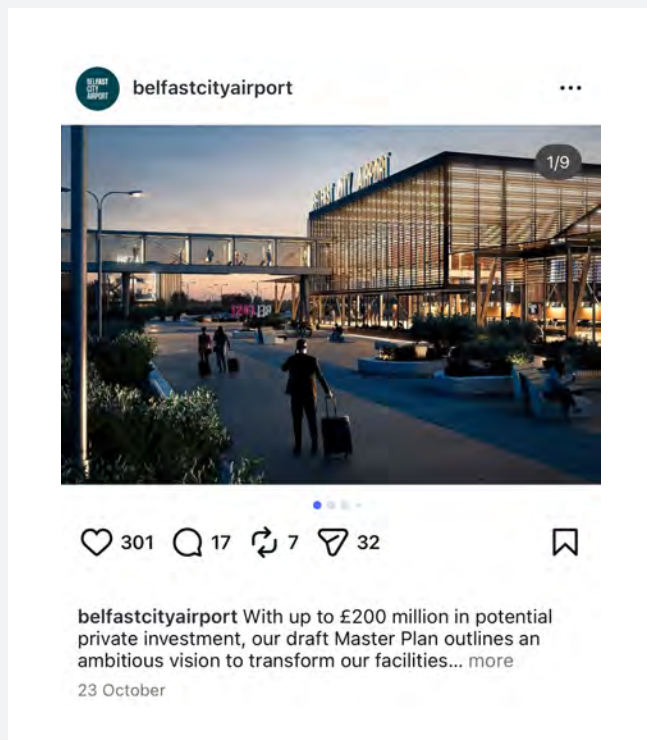
@cyanotype\_media

#connectivity #airport #aviation #airportlife #northernireland

22 September

# Appendix 4

## Digital assets published across Belfast City Airport social media platforms



# Appendix 4

## Digital assets published across Belfast City Airport social media platforms

### LinkedIn



#### Belfast City Airport

8,006 followers  
1mo · 🌐

Calling all residents of East Belfast!

It's your turn to have your say on our draft Master Plan at our Community Engagement event, taking place on Thursday 9th October at Templemore Baths.

To find out more about our vision for the future, visit:  
<https://lnkd.in/eDTAQAjq>



#### Belfast City Airport

8,006 followers  
1mo · Edited · 🌐

Our plans for the future go far beyond the runway, creating jobs, enhancing connectivity, and securing long-term prosperity for Northern Ireland. Our draft Master Plan is an opportunity, and one we're pleased to share.

Find out more: <https://lnkd.in/eDTAQAjq>

Clare Guinness CDir Belfast Chamber

#connectivity #growth #northernireland #aviation



#### Belfast City Airport

8,006 followers  
5d · 🌐

Belfast City Airport's draft Master Plan sets out a clear, responsible vision for the next 15 years. One which ensures sustainable growth, supports local jobs, and strengthens Northern Ireland's economy.

We're proud to have the support of business leaders including Dr Lisa McIlvenna, Managing Director at [Business in the Community Northern Ireland](#), as we continue building a business that benefits both people and place.

The consultation on our draft Master Plan remains open until 11 November for those who wish to play a role in shaping our future. <https://lnkd.in/eDTAQAjq>



#### Belfast City Airport

8,006 followers  
4w · Edited · 🌐

[Belfast City Airport](#) has launched its draft Master Plan, setting out a bold vision for the future, driven by a potential private investment of £200m.

This will not only enhance the functionality of the airport and improve the experience for passengers, but it will also deliver lasting benefits for Northern Ireland's economy, connectivity, and global reputation.

As a key asset for Northern Ireland, we continue to play a vital role in connecting people, businesses, and opportunities.

Find out more: <https://lnkd.in/eDTAQAjq>

Colin Neill HOSPITALITY ULSTER

#connectivity #investment #growth #aviation  
#northernireland



# Appendix 4

## Digital assets published across Belfast City Airport social media platforms


**Belfast City Airport**  
 8,006 followers  
 1mo · Edited ·

We launched our draft Master Plan to elected representatives and business leaders, outlining how we can grow responsibly to serve up to 7 million passengers a year by 2040 – creating jobs, attracting investment, and strengthening connectivity, all while keeping sustainability at the heart of our plans ✈️

We want to hear from you too! Share your views and help shape transformational change for the airport, our community, and economy: <https://lnkd.in/eDTAQAjQ>

#connectivity #growth #aviation #northernireland




**Belfast City Airport**  
 8,006 followers  
 1mo ·

Our draft Master Plan is about more than the airport itself – it's a catalyst for economic growth, job creation, and enhanced connectivity across Northern Ireland.

With a projected contribution to the economy of £1.7bn by 2040, it's easy to see why business leaders are backing our vision for the future 📈

Find out more: <https://lnkd.in/eDTAQAjQ>

Kieran Donoghue, Invest Northern Ireland

#aviation #growth #connectivity #airport




**Belfast City Airport**  
 8,006 followers  
 2w · Edited ·

With up to £200 million in potential private investment, our draft Master Plan outlines an ambitious vision to transform our facilities – enhancing connectivity, creating opportunities, and benefiting communities across Northern Ireland.

Here's what's proposed:

- ✈️ An extended terminal to improve the passenger experience
- 🚆 The opportunity for a potential new rail halt directly serving the airport
- 🚗 A multi-modal forecourt with enhanced transport links
- ⚡ Opportunities to maximise onsite renewables
- 🏨 Complementary developments including a new hotel and EV charging forecourt

We're seeking feedback on our draft Master Plan until 11th November 2025.

Have your say! Share your views and help shape transformational change for the airport, our community, and economy: <https://lnkd.in/eDTAQAjQ>




**Belfast City Airport**  
 8,006 followers  
 1mo ·

Last week, we launched our draft Master Plan 2040, outlining how we can grow responsibly to serve up to 7 million passengers a year – creating jobs, attracting investment, and strengthening connectivity, all while keeping sustainability at the heart of our plans ✈️

We'd love to hear your views. Share your thoughts and help shape transformational change for the airport, our community, and economy. Public consultation is open until 11th November 2025: <https://lnkd.in/eDTAQAjQ>

#aviation #connectivity #growth #northernireland



# Appendix 4

## Digital assets published across Belfast City Airport social media platforms

### LinkedIn



#### Belfast City Airport

8,006 followers  
1mo · Edited ·

Yesterday we hosted our stakeholders and elected representatives at Stormont Parliament Buildings for the launch of our draft Master Plan 2040.

This vision sets out how we will grow responsibly to accommodate up to 7 million passengers a year by 2040, while continuing to deliver a safe, sustainable, and efficient airport for Northern Ireland ✈️

From terminal expansion to improved surface access and even a potential rail link, this is an ambitious plan that will secure jobs, investment, and long-term growth.

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us to help shape the conversation about the future of Belfast City Airport. If you would like to find out more, visit: <https://lnkd.in/eDTAQAjQ>

#aviation #connectivity #growth #northernireland



#### Belfast City Airport

8,006 followers  
1mo ·

Belfast City Airport's vision for the future

Today, we launched our draft Master Plan ...more



#### Belfast City Airport

8,006 followers  
1mo ·

As part of our draft Master Plan, we're hosting a series of public consultation events across local areas to give residents and community members the opportunity to share their views.

South Belfast was first to have its say, with the session taking place at Riddel Hall, [Queen's University Belfast](#).

As an airport located in the heart of Belfast, it's important to us that we listen to and engage with those who live, work and travel in and around the city.

There are also other ways to share your feedback. For more information, please visit: <https://lnkd.in/eDTAQAjQ>



#### Belfast City Airport

8,006 followers  
3w ·

North Down 📢

We'd love to hear your thoughts on our draft Master Plan. Join us at our Community Engagement Event on Thursday 16th October to have your say!

To find out more about our vision for the future, visit: <https://lnkd.in/eDTAQAjQ>



# Appendix 4



## Digital assets published across Belfast City Airport social media platforms

**Belfast City Airport**  
8,006 followers  
4d · 🌐

Our draft Master Plan outlines 15 years of ambitious growth, benefitting, not only the region and its people, but creating greater opportunities for education, research, and innovation.

Professor [Margaret Topping](#) from [Queen's University Belfast](#) shares how increased international connectivity is vital for attracting global talent and supporting international students.

Have your say! There's still time to share your thoughts before the consultation period closes on 11th November: <https://lnkd.in/eDTAQAjQ>



**Belfast City Airport**  
8,006 followers  
3d · 🌐

With £200 million in potential private investment, our draft Master Plan presents a significant opportunity to strengthen Northern Ireland's connection to the global market and open new pathways for international trade and growth.

Roger Pollen, Head of the [Federation of Small Businesses \(FSB\)](#), shares why improved links, both to the UK and the wider world, are vital to supporting our businesses and fostering local talent.

By strengthening our connections, we can help Northern Ireland's businesses thrive on the global stage!

We'd love to hear your feedback on our plans. Have your say now: <https://lnkd.in/eDTAQAjQ>



**Belfast City Airport**  
8,006 followers  
1mo · 🌐

South Belfast! Have your say on our draft Master Plan at our first Community Engagement Event, taking place on Thursday 2nd October.

To find out more about our vision for the future, visit: <https://lnkd.in/eDTAQAjQ>



**Belfast City Airport**  
8,006 followers  
1mo · 🌐

Today is the day! 🎉

We are exhibiting at the Festival of Business at St George's Market today, from 8:30am – 1:30pm.

Our media sales team will be on hand to chat about all things advertising at Belfast City Airport – including an exclusive Christmas offer for digital advertising 🎁

You'll also have the opportunity to learn more about our brand-new draft Master Plan, which was launched just yesterday.

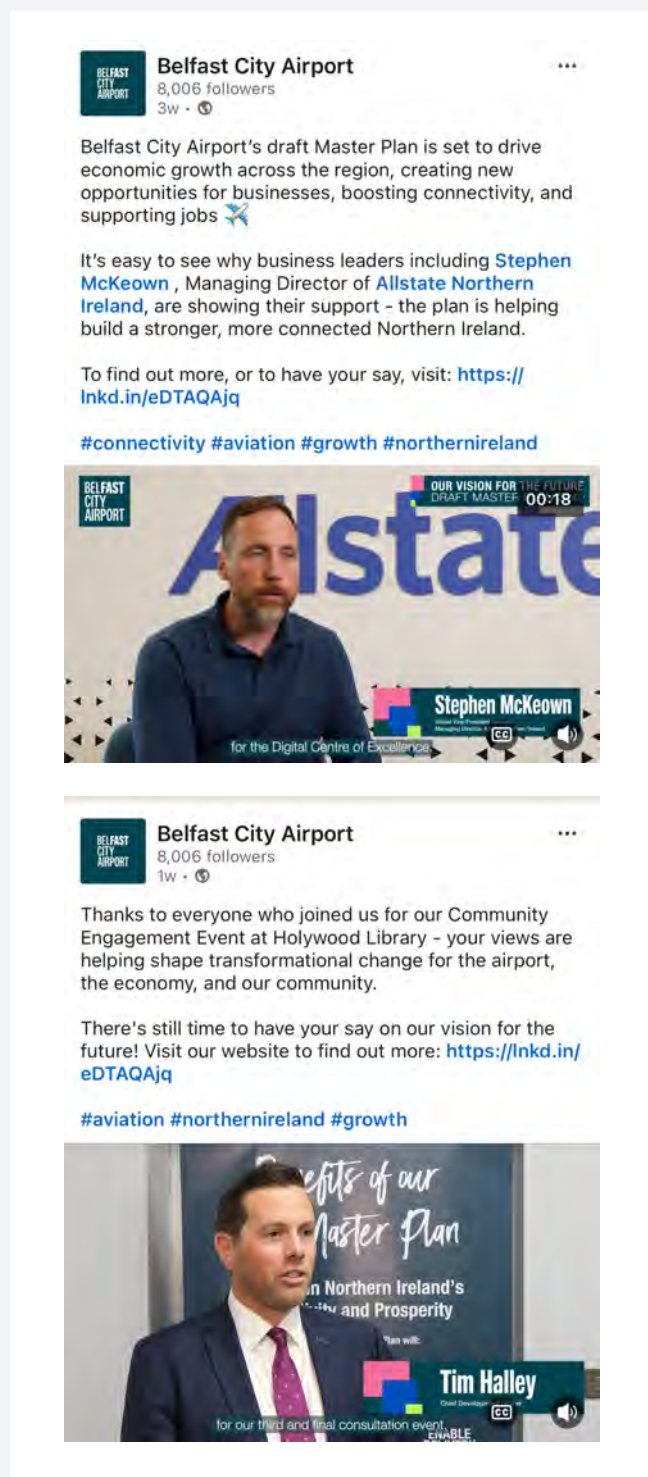
📍 Find us at Stand 92 – we look forward to seeing you there!

[#FoB](#) [#festivalofbusiness](#) [#advertising](#) [#OOH](#) [#aviation](#)



# Appendix 4

## Digital assets published across Belfast City Airport social media platforms



# Appendix 5



Digital assets issued by elected representatives to notify the public of the community engagement events

## East Belfast

### HAVE YOUR SAY!

DRAFT MASTER PLAN 2040

Belfast City Airport's vision for the future.  
Share your views and help us shape the future of Belfast City Airport.



#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT



Thursday  
9 October 2025  
2pm-4pm &  
6pm-8pm  
Templemore  
Baths  
East Belfast

You will be able to submit written feedback at this event.

Visit the dedicated consultation website:  
[belfastcityairport.com/vision](http://belfastcityairport.com/vision)



## North Down

### HAVE YOUR SAY!

DRAFT MASTER PLAN 2040

Belfast City Airport's vision for the future.  
Share your views and help us shape the future of Belfast City Airport.



#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT



Thursday  
16 October 2025  
2pm-4pm &  
6pm-8pm  
Holywood  
Library, North  
Down

You will be able to submit written feedback at this event.

Visit the dedicated consultation website:  
[belfastcityairport.com/vision](http://belfastcityairport.com/vision)



## South Belfast

### HAVE YOUR SAY!

DRAFT MASTER PLAN 2040

Belfast City Airport's vision for the future.  
Share your views and help us shape the future of Belfast City Airport.



#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT



Thursday  
2 October 2025  
2pm-4pm &  
6pm-8pm  
Riddell Hall,  
South Belfast

You will be able to submit written feedback at this event.

Visit the dedicated consultation website:  
[belfastcityairport.com/vision](http://belfastcityairport.com/vision)



## East Belfast

### HAVE YOUR SAY!

DRAFT MASTER PLAN 2040

Belfast City Airport's vision for the future.  
Share your views and help us shape the future of Belfast City Airport.

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT



Thursday  
9 October 2025  
2pm-4pm &  
6pm-8pm  
Templemore Baths  
East Belfast

You will be able to submit written feedback at this event.



Visit the dedicated consultation website:  
[belfastcityairport.com/vision](http://belfastcityairport.com/vision)



## South Belfast

### HAVE YOUR SAY!

DRAFT MASTER PLAN 2040

Belfast City Airport's vision for the future.  
Share your views and help us shape the future of Belfast City Airport.

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENT



Thursday  
2 October 2025  
2pm-4pm &  
6pm-8pm  
Riddell Hall,  
South Belfast

You will be able to submit written feedback at this event.



Visit the dedicated consultation website:  
[belfastcityairport.com/vision](http://belfastcityairport.com/vision)



# Appendix 5

## Digital assets issued by elected representatives to notify the public of the community engagement events

David Brooks MLA's post



David Brooks MLA

25 September 2025 · 🌐

**Belfast City Airport's Masterplan Consultation**

Belfast City Airport's Masterplan Consultation Event for East Belfast is taking place on Thursday, 9th October at Templemore Baths.

Two sessions will be held on the day:  
2:00pm – 4:00pm  
6:00pm – 8:00pm

The event provides an important opportunity for local residents to review the draft Masterplan, share feedback, and help shape the future vision of Belfast City Airport.

Further details, along with the option to provide feedback online, are available at: [belfastcityairport.com/vision](https://belfastcityairport.com/vision).

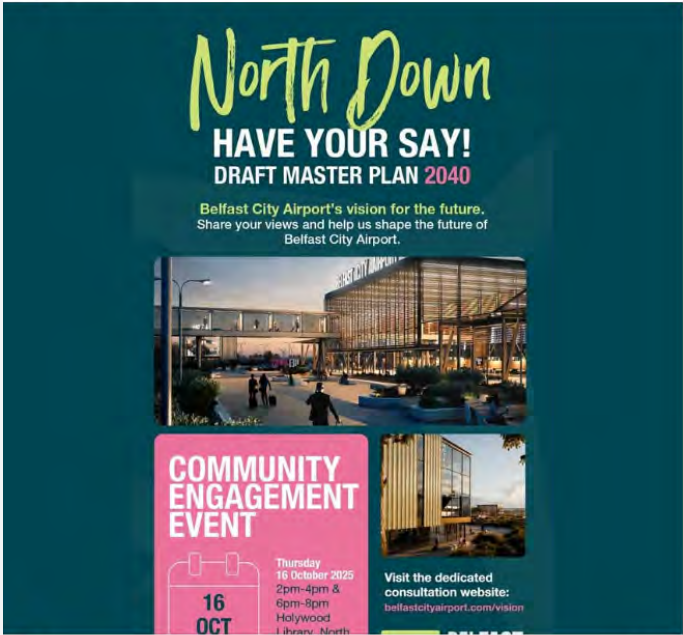


Alex Easton MP's post



Alex Easton MP

14 October 2025 · 🌐



9

Like

Comment

1 share

# Appendix 6



## Belfast City Airport Community News September Edition

### COMMUNITY OCTOBER 2025 NEWS

BELFAST  
CITY  
AIRPORT



#### WELCOME

Hello and welcome to this special edition of

Community News within which you can find out more information about our draft Master Plan 2040.

Having been part of the Belfast City Airport team for more than four years now, one of the things that has struck me most is the pride and ambition of the people who live and work around us. Our local community has always been central to Belfast City Airport's history, and these plans are about making sure we continue to deliver real benefits for local people well into the future.

Demand for air travel across Ireland is rising, and by 2040 Belfast City Airport is projected to cater for up to **7 million passengers** a year. We therefore need a clear vision for how the airport can develop over the next 15 years.

This is why we have launched our draft Master Plan 2040 — to set out how Belfast City Airport can meet future demand while **continuing to support jobs, connectivity, and our community in a way that is sustainable and responsible.**

We welcome your feedback as part of our Master Plan Consultation, which is open until **11th November 2025**. All responses will be carefully considered before the final plan is published early next year.

Thank you for taking the time to engage with these plans. Your views will help shape the future of Belfast City Airport, and together we can ensure it continues to serve both our passengers and the community we are proud to be part of.

*Matthew Hall*

Chief Executive, Belfast City Airport



Image Credit - Cyanotype Media

## INTRODUCING OUR DRAFT MASTER PLAN 2040

In September, Belfast City Airport launched its draft Master Plan 2040 — a once-in-a-generation opportunity that will not only respond to rising demand for air travel across the island of Ireland, but also deliver new jobs, investment, improved connectivity, and greater community and sustainability benefits, while also supporting the transition to cleaner, quieter, new generation aircraft.

We are ready to play our part, and have now outlined how we plan to facilitate up to 7 million passengers a year by 2040, ensuring Belfast retains and expands its vital links to the UK and Europe.

**We do not anticipate that a runway extension will be required to achieve our vision. All growth to 2040 can also be delivered within our existing noise contour area limit.**

#### What will these plans deliver?

##### For people and communities:

 More routes and flight frequency to the UK and Europe, 1,100+ new jobs, launch of an Apprenticeship Academy and an expansion of our award-winning Community Engagement Programme.

##### For the airport:

 A world-class terminal and airport facilities following a private investment of up to £200 million and the potential to become Northern Ireland's first rail-connected airport.

##### For Northern Ireland:

 An annual contribution of £1.7 billion to the Northern Ireland economy and faster progress towards net zero.

# Appendix 6



## Belfast City Airport Community News September Edition

COMMUNITY NEWS OCTOBER 2025



### SUPPORT FOR OUR DRAFT MASTER PLAN

Our draft Master Plan was warmly welcomed by politicians, trade bodies and business leaders alike at a launch event in the prestigious Long Gallery in Parliament Buildings on Stormont Estate.

"Belfast City Airport is more than just a gateway, it is a major part of our economy. It supports hundreds of jobs, boosts local businesses and helps drive tourism. This Master Plan shows great ambition and a really bold vision for the future. I look forward to seeing how this next chapter unfolds and the positive impact it will have on our people, visitors and generations to come."

*Michelle O'Neill*

First Minister

"The Belfast City Airport Master Plan has the potential to deliver huge benefits for Northern Ireland. Growing a globally sustainable economy is a priority for us and this plan aligns seamlessly with this as it will drive connectivity and support future economic growth. It will also strengthen our tourism sector, support employment and reinforce Northern Ireland's position as a great place to work, live, visit and invest in."

*Emma Little-Pengelly*

deputy First Minister



Image Credit - Cyanotype Media



Gavin Robinson MP, East Belfast; Joanne Butting MLA, East Belfast; Tim Halley, Chief Development Officer at Belfast City Airport and Emma Little-Pengelly, deputy First Minister



Tim Halley, Chief Development Officer at Belfast City Airport and Peter McReynolds MLA, East Belfast



Matthew O'Toole MLA, South Belfast and Matthew Hall, Chief Executive of Belfast City Airport



Stephen Dunne MLA, North Down and Tim Halley, Chief Development Officer at Belfast City Airport



Minister for the Economy in Northern Ireland, Caoimhe Archibald and Matthew Hall, Chief Executive of Belfast City Airport



David Brooks MLA, East Belfast and Tim Halley, Chief Development Officer at Belfast City Airport



Lindsay Millar, Corporate Affairs Manager at Belfast City Airport and Robbie Butler MLA, Lagan Valley

# Appendix 6

## Belfast City Airport Community News September Edition

COMMUNITY NEWS OCTOBER 2025

### Have your say!

Share your views and help shape transformational change for the airport, our community, and economy. There are a number of ways you can share your feedback ahead of the consultation period closing on 11th November 2025:



Via our dedicated consultation website at [belfastcityairport.com/vision](https://belfastcityairport.com/vision)



By using the consultation questionnaire **QR code**



In writing, by sending feedback to:  
**Master Plan Team, Belfast City Airport,  
Sydenham Bypass, Belfast BT3 9JH**



You can also meet with **members of the Master Plan team in person** at one of our community engagement events, detailed below.

### Community Engagement Events



**Thursday  
2 October 2025**  
2pm-4pm &  
6pm-8pm  
Riddell Hall,  
South Belfast



**Thursday  
9 October 2025**  
2pm-4pm &  
6pm-8pm  
Templemore Baths,  
East Belfast



**Thursday  
16 October 2025**  
2pm-4pm &  
6pm-8pm  
Holywood Library,  
North Down

Please note you will be able to submit written feedback at these events.



Image Credit - Cyanotype Media



Image Credit - Cyanotype Media

# Appendix 6



## Belfast City Airport Community News September Edition

COMMUNITY NEWS OCTOBER 2025

### COMMUNITY CORNER

Our ties with our local community are deep-rooted. We pride ourselves on being a good neighbour and creating a positive and long-term social impact while meeting the needs of our community in a tangible way.

Our work is far reaching, and our Community Fund supports a number of key projects that reflect our dedication to forging strong partnerships and uplifting the place we call home.

Approximately  
**£700,000**  
donated to date

**237**  
projects supported

#### Ashfield Girls' School

With the support of our Community Fund, up to 80 Special Educational Needs pupils at Ashfield Girls' School have benefitted from the creation of a LEGO and After School Homework Club.

#### Redeeming Our Communities

More than 600 young people in Belfast were provided with the tools they need to learn, including stationery packs and uniforms, through our Community Fund partnership with Redeeming Our Communities.



#### Kids Together Belfast

We provided vital funding through our Community Fund to the 'Music and Me' programme, run by Kids Together Belfast. This is a music-based programme for kids aged 2-4 with autism spectrum disorder and aims to help foster social, communication and emotional development.



#### The Conservation Volunteers

We enabled the delivery of a £10,000 biodiversity initiative, empowering young people to connect with and protect their local environment. More than 1,750 native tree seeds were sown by over 265 pupils from seven of our adopted schools.



#### People's Kitchen

People's Kitchen in North Belfast does amazing work in helping to provide food, warmth and essential care to those experiencing homelessness and poverty across the city. Through our Community Fund we supported the team with hospital care packs and tailored assistance to elderly individuals and those living in severe deprivation in some of the most economically disadvantaged communities in Northern Ireland.

**Win**  
with Belfast  
City Airport!

To be in with a chance of winning a £100 Amazon voucher, please answer the question below by completing the form and returning it to the address provided.

**Q: How many passengers does Belfast City Airport aim to serve per year by 2040?**

✓ Tick the correct box

☐ 4 million ☐ 6 million ☐ 7 million

Contact details (Please use BLOCK CAPITALS)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Send your answer with your name and contact details to:

Marketing Department (Community News), Belfast City Airport, Belfast, BT3 9JH

This competition will close at midnight on Friday 7th November 2025.  
Full T&Cs can be found at [belfastcityairport.com](http://belfastcityairport.com)

# Appendix 7

Questionnaire used at community engagement events and on the dedicated website



# Appendix 7

Questionnaire used at community engagement events and on the dedicated website



# Appendix 7



## Questionnaire used at community engagement events and on the dedicated website

### THEME: Location

Q1a. What geographical area best describes where you reside?

- ☐ Belfast North
- ☐ Belfast East
- ☐ Belfast West
- ☐ Belfast South
- ☐ North Down
- ☐ Other, please specify:

Q1b. Please confirm your postcode.

### THEME: Master Plan vision to deliver prosperity and connectivity

Our vision is to deliver growth to 7 million passengers annually in a sustainable and responsible way. This growth can be achieved on around 61,000 flights annually, without any change to our existing noise contour limit by introducing cleaner, quieter, new generation aircraft.

Realising this vision unlocks a potential private investment of up to £200 million that will enable improved air connectivity to the rest of the UK and Europe, as well as further economic growth. It will also facilitate more job creation, community outreach projects, and sustainability initiatives.

Q2. Given the above, to what extent do you support or oppose the principle of growing Belfast City Airport and the Northern Ireland economy? Before answering, you will find it useful to read Chapters 3 and 4 of the draft Master Plan.

- ☐ Strongly support
- ☐ Support
- ☐ Neither support or oppose
- ☐ Oppose
- ☐ Strongly oppose

### THEME: Keeping Northern Ireland connected

Given our island location, good connectivity to the rest of the UK and Europe is especially important for Northern Ireland. Demand to fly on the island of Ireland will double over the next 15 years.

Current airport capacity is not available to satisfy this future demand, and all airports, not just Belfast City Airport, will need to play their part in delivering it. Undoubtedly, a collective effort across the Irish and Northern Irish airport sectors will be required.

**BELFAST  
CITY  
AIRPORT**

# Appendix 7



## Questionnaire used at community engagement events and on the dedicated website

Q3. Given the above, to what extent do you support or oppose the principle of Belfast City Airport playing its part to meet the future connectivity requirements of Northern Ireland, subject to addressing any potential effects on the environment and our local community? Before answering, you will find it useful to read Chapters 2 and 3 of the draft Master Plan.

- ☐ Strongly support
- ☐ Support
- ☐ Neither support or oppose
- ☐ Oppose
- ☐ Strongly oppose

### THEME: Economic and social benefits

Delivery of our draft Master Plan by 2040 will double the workforce at the airport to over 2,200 people and generate £1.7 billion GVA\* for Northern Ireland annually, as well as supporting over 23,000 jobs across the region.

It would also deliver a new employment academy with up to 15% of the new jobs delivered through apprenticeships.

*\*GVA - A measure of the economic contribution of a business or sector to the wider economy.*

Q4a. Do you agree that the scale of economic benefits are significant when considered alongside the other social benefits? Before answering, you will find it useful to read Chapter 3 in the draft Master Plan.

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

Q4b. How important do you feel it is that up to 15% of new jobs are delivered through apprenticeships and training programmes for young people, returners, and those wishing to retrain?

- ☐ Very important
- ☐ Important
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Not important

Q4c. In addition to a new employment academy, do you have any other suggestions about how we can create more education, employment and training opportunities for our local community?

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**BELFAST  
CITY  
AIRPORT**

# Appendix 7



## Questionnaire used at community engagement events and on the dedicated website

### THEME: Improving access to Public Transport

At the heart of our vision is to increase levels of public transport use, reduce emissions from road traffic and manage the impacts of growth. This will include improved access, a cap on future parking and a new forecourt with improved bus infrastructure and EV charging.

The Master Plan also outlines an exciting opportunity to partner with Translink to further explore the real prospect of Belfast City Airport becoming the first airport on the island to have a direct rail connection.

**Q5a. Do you agree that we should make bold changes to give people better, greener ways of getting to and from the airport? Before answering, you will find it useful to read Chapter 4 in the draft Master Plan.**

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neither agree nor disagree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

**Q5b. Do you support the opportunity and ambition to provide a new rail halt directly linking the airport terminal to Grand Central Station?**

- ☐ Strongly support
- ☐ Support
- ☐ Neither support or oppose
- ☐ Oppose
- ☐ Strongly oppose

### THEME: Creating the conditions to unlock the benefits

To provide the necessary air connectivity and unlock the full range of economic and social benefits for Belfast and Northern Ireland, providing increased flexibility for airlines to fly the necessary routes, giving passengers choice and avoiding disruption or cancellations, will be critical. Equally important will be to deliver all growth within our existing noise contour\* limit, through increased use of quieter, new generation aircraft\*.

To deliver this, we are considering limited flexibility in the evening to allow some additional scheduled flights for a period after 21:30, but not beyond the current 23:59 limit for delayed flights. Importantly, this would encourage airlines to accelerate investment in new generation aircraft, benefiting our local community throughout the day.

**We do not anticipate any future flights, either scheduled or delayed, beyond the current 23:59 limit, nor do we anticipate any flights prior to the existing start time of 06:30.**

\*Noise contour - Contour lines used to help represent noise exposure across large geographical areas. Noise contours are similar to those found in topographical maps, except they are drawn to highlight areas with similar noise levels rather than elevation.

\*New generation aircraft - A new, more fuel efficient aircraft type that is notably quieter compared to older versions.

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# Appendix 7



## Questionnaire used at community engagement events and on the dedicated website

Q6. Would you be supportive of the principle of more flexibility beyond 21:30 if it: remained within the 23:59 cut off; unlocked the full range of social and economic benefits; and accelerated investment in cleaner, quieter, new generation aircraft? Any such proposals would be subject to more detailed consultation and include appropriate controls. Before answering, you will find it useful to read Chapter 4 of the draft Master Plan.

- ☐ Strongly support
- ☐ Support
- ☐ Neither support or oppose
- ☐ Oppose
- ☐ Strongly oppose

### THEME: Sustainability initiatives

Our vision will allow us to further improve and accelerate sustainability initiatives, including onsite renewables and our journey towards net zero\*. It will also allow us to explore the opportunity for a new rail halt serving the airport. These initiatives, along with the transition to cleaner, quieter, and more sustainable aviation, will deliver growth in a sustainable and responsible way.

\*Net zero - A state where greenhouse gas emissions are balanced by removal or offsetting, with the UK target set for 2050 (some airports are also targeting earlier dates for their own operations).

Q7. To what extent do you support the airport's proposed sustainability measures including investment in net zero operations, onsite renewables, improved public transport access, and support for new generation aircraft? Before answering, you will find it useful to read Chapter 5 of the draft Master Plan.

- ☐ Strongly support
- ☐ Support
- ☐ Neither support or oppose
- ☐ Oppose
- ☐ Strongly oppose

### THEME: Environmental effects

We have carefully assessed the potential environmental effects of the Master Plan. All infrastructure can be accommodated within the existing airport site and we do not anticipate that any runway extension will be required.

All aircraft movements can also be accommodated within our existing noise contour limit.

Q8. Given the comprehensive assessment of potential effects and how these will be managed and mitigated, do you still have any concerns regarding our emerging proposals? Before answering, you will find it useful to read Chapters 5 and 6 of the draft Master Plan.

- ☐ Not concerned at all
- ☐ Not very concerned
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Somewhat concerned
- ☐ Very concerned

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# Appendix 7



## Questionnaire used at community engagement events and on the dedicated website

Which aspects of the environment concern you?

- ☐ Noise
- ☐ Air quality
- ☐ Carbon emissions
- ☐ Ecology
- ☐ Surface Access
- ☐ Other

Based on the above, which measures would you like the airport to further target as part of the Master Plan?

- ☐ Noise mitigation
- ☐ Expand Community Engagement Programmes
- ☐ Sustainability initiatives
- ☐ Ecology enhancements
- ☐ Surface Access measures
- ☐ Other

### THEME: Support for emerging proposals

**Q9. How would you rank your level of support for the emerging proposals outlined in the draft Master Plan?**  
Before answering, you will find it useful to read the Executive Summary, which is contained within the opening pages of the draft Master Plan.

- ☐ Strongly support
- ☐ Support
- ☐ Neither support or oppose
- ☐ Oppose
- ☐ Strongly oppose

### THEME: Other comments / improvements

**Q10. Do you have any other suggestions on how we can improve our future vision as we finalise our Master Plan? Please use the comment box provided.**

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Belfast City Airport processes personal data collected through this survey in accordance with UK data protection laws, including the UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018. You can find our full privacy notice detailing how your data is used, your rights, and how to contact us on our website at [belfastcityairport.com/vision/Privacy-Policy](https://belfastcityairport.com/vision/Privacy-Policy)

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# Appendix 7

Questionnaire used at community engagement events and on the dedicated website



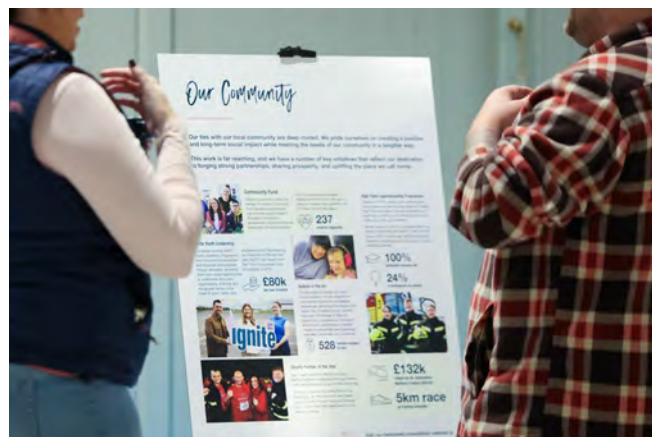
# Appendix 8

## Image suite capturing each of the three community engagement events

### Riddell Hall



### Templemore Baths



# Appendix 8

## Image suite capturing each of the three community engagement events

### Templemore Baths



### Hollywood Library



# Appendix 9



## Information boards displayed at the community engagement events

### Benefits of our Draft Master Plan

Investing in Northern Ireland's  
Connectivity and Prosperity

By 2040, our draft Master Plan will:

 **Contribute**  
**£1.7 BILLION**  
to the Northern Ireland  
economy annually

 **Support**  
**23,000+**  
jobs across  
the region

 **Create**  
**1,100+**  
new jobs  
at the airport

 **ENABLE  
DELIVERY**  
of the Programme  
for Government

 **ENHANCE AIR  
CONNECTIVITY**  
to key UK and  
European destinations

 **Unlock a potential**  
**£200 MILLION  
INVESTMENT**

 **TRANSFORM  
PUBLIC  
TRANSPORT**  
and explore new rail  
halt opportunity

 **ACCELERATE  
SUSTAINABILITY  
AMBITION**  
including net zero  
and onsite renewables

 **DELIVER  
EMPLOYMENT  
ACADEMY**  
with more apprenticeships

**All growth to 2040 can be  
delivered within our existing  
noise contour area limit**

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[belfastcityairport.com/vision](https://belfastcityairport.com/vision)

**Have your say!**  
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# Appendix 9



## Information boards displayed at the community engagement events

### Belfast City Airport Today



**LOCATED**  
in the heart of Belfast



**5 MINUTES**  
from Belfast city centre



Current impact across Northern Ireland:



**£800 million**  
contributed annually in GVA



**12,000+**  
jobs supported  
across the region



**2.4 million**  
passengers a year



**DIRECT**  
routes to 23  
destinations across  
the UK and Europe



**GLOBAL**  
gateway with connections  
to 190+ worldwide  
destinations



**6**  
airline partners



Over  
**£700K**  
invested in our community to date



**237**  
projects supported  
through our Community Fund

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# Appendix 9



## Information boards displayed at the community engagement events

### Meeting Passenger Demand

Our forecasts suggest that demand to use Belfast City Airport will increase to 7 million passengers annually by 2040.



To meet this demand, we need to:



**Deliver** world-class passenger and terminal facilities



Ensure **quick, convenient access** for passengers and staff



Provide more **choice and frequency** to destinations across the UK and Europe



Encourage use of **cleaner, quieter, new generation aircraft**

If we don't act, the gap in the network and passenger demand will only increase, which is a missed opportunity for Northern Ireland, its economy, and its connectivity.

**We do not anticipate any need for a runway extension or any flights between 23:59 and 06:30 each day.**

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# Appendix 9



## Information boards displayed at the community engagement events

### Our Vision

Our vision can be unlocked through a substantial private investment of up to £200 million over the next 15 years, including:



Image Credit - Cyanotype Media



Image Credit - Cyanotype Media



Image Credit - Cyanotype Media



An extension of the existing terminal



New aircraft stands, aprons, and taxiway



Surface access improvements, including a new multi-modal forecourt



Opportunity to deliver a transformational rail halt directly serving the airport



An opportunity to maximise onsite renewables



Complementary onsite development to include a new hotel and EV charging forecourt



Visit our dedicated consultation website at [belfastcityairport.com/vision](https://belfastcityairport.com/vision)



Have your say!  
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# Appendix 9



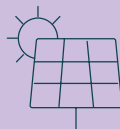
## Information boards displayed at the community engagement events

### Our Sustainability Aspirations

The draft Master Plan offers further opportunities to build on our sustainability credentials. We aspire to...



**Unlock opportunity to accelerate our net zero target for airport operations** potentially as soon as 2040 (10 years sooner than our previous commitment) – delivered in part through investment in our terminal and airfield infrastructure.



**Achieve 10% of 2040 energy needs through onsite renewables** – to include Solar PV (subject to detailed feasibility).



**Partner with Translink to explore the opportunity for a new rail halt directly serving the airport** – the first partnership between the public and private sector of its kind in Northern Ireland.



**Create a new employment academy with an aspiration to deliver up to 15% of new jobs through apprenticeships** – working with key partners and educational organisations to create meaningful training and employment opportunities.



**Collaborate with partners on the Future of Flight** by working with industry in Northern Ireland to progress pilot initiatives for end users of hydrogen, including airfield operations and zero emission flight. Belfast City Airport is ideally located adjacent to Belfast Port and its short-haul route network is well suited to the early use of electric and hydrogen fuelled aircraft.

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# Appendix 9



## Information boards displayed at the community engagement events

### Implications of Failing to Meet Demand

We stand at the heart of Northern Ireland's ambition to build a thriving, connected, and confident future.

Our growth is not just about meeting passenger demand, it is about delivering Northern Ireland's Programme for Government and in the process unlocking new opportunities for our people, our businesses, and our communities.

#### Without Master Plan Delivery



Restricted international air connectivity



Reduced economic productivity



Higher air fares for passengers



Less job creation



Limited route network and fewer flight destinations



Hampered foreign direct investment



Unmet air travel demand



Damage to tourism and wider economy

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#### With Master Plan Delivery

Enhanced connectivity to the UK and Europe



Improved economic productivity



Competitive air fares for passengers



An additional 11,300 jobs supported across Northern Ireland



Boost to GVA of over £755 million for Belfast and almost £0.9 billion across Northern Ireland



Significant contribution to Northern Ireland's Regional Development Strategy and Programme for Government



More airlines and wider destination choice for passengers



Improvement to tourism and wider economy



Visit our dedicated consultation website at [belfastcityairport.com/vision](https://belfastcityairport.com/vision)



**Have your say!**  
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# Appendix 9

## Information boards displayed at the community engagement events



# Appendix 9

## Information boards displayed at the community engagement events



# Appendix 9

## Information boards displayed at the community engagement events



# Appendix 9

## Information boards displayed at the community engagement events



# Appendix 9



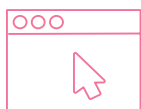
## Information boards displayed at the community engagement events

### Have Your Say

We are now seeking your views on our draft Master Plan. There are a number of ways in which you can provide your valuable feedback, including:



**Meeting with members of the Master Plan Team**  
at one of our community engagement events



Via our dedicated consultation website:  
**[belfastcityairport.com/vision](https://belfastcityairport.com/vision)**



In writing, by sending feedback to:  
**Master Plan Team, Belfast City Airport, Sydenham Bypass, Belfast BT3 9JH**



By scanning the **QR code** below to access the consultation questionnaire



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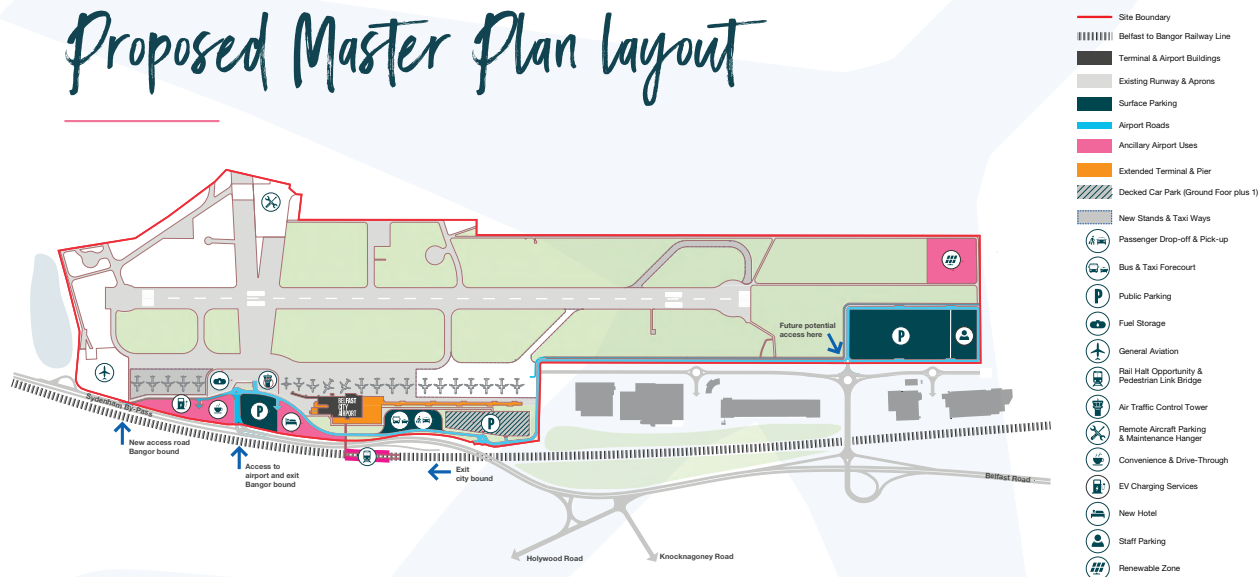
Feedback on this draft Master Plan is welcome for a period of **8 weeks up to 11 November 2025.**

# Appendix 9



## Information boards displayed at the community engagement events

### Proposed Master Plan layout



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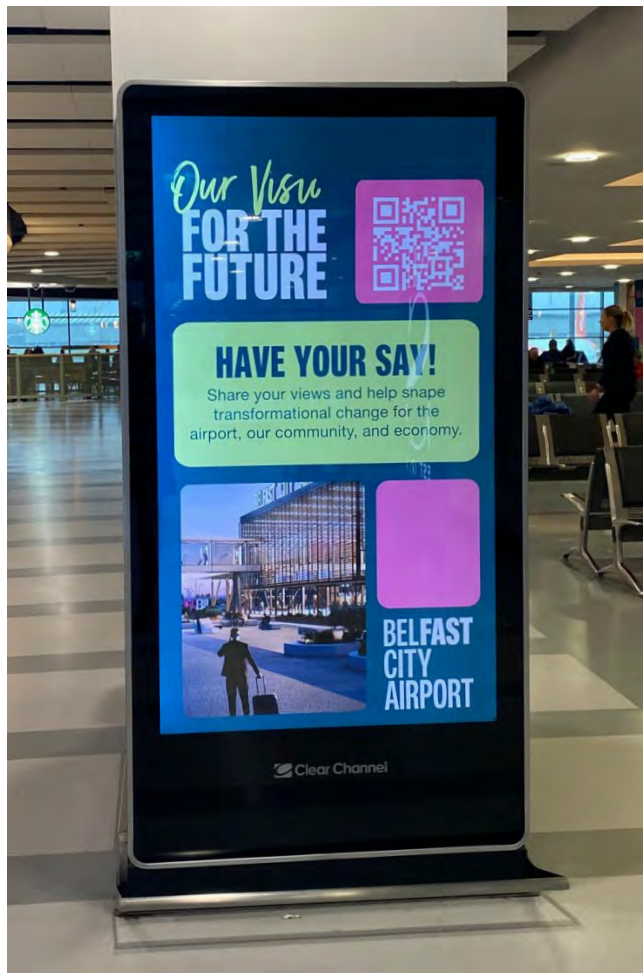
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# Appendix 10

## Pictures of information station and branded walls in-terminal at Belfast City Airport



# Appendix 10

## Pictures of information station and branded walls in-terminal at Belfast City Airport

