

**16 June 2011**

### **Update on preparation of the Rushmoor Plan**

The Hearing sessions for the Examination into the Core Strategy, a key document that forms part of the Rushmoor Plan, were held between 7 June and 15 June 2011. As a “key and strategic” matter, the broad policy to cover the future of the Airport to 2027 was one of the issues discussed. Representatives from TAG Farnborough Airport, the Council and the FACC, as well as interested local residents, were present, and the independent Inspector overseeing the Examination encouraged all parties to share their views on the proposed Airport policy.

The Inspector closed the Hearing sessions on 15 June, and is now considering the evidence put before him as he writes his report. The Council expects to receive the Inspector’s Report towards the end of the summer. He will conclude whether or not he finds the Core Strategy to be “sound”, and if it is sound, the Council will adopt it later this year.

The Core Strategy provides the broad and strategic context for the preparation of more detailed planning policies. The Council has been preparing the Farnborough Airport Area Action Plan, a version of which was published for consultation in January 2010. This document contains detailed policies relating to the future of the Airport set within the context of the broad policy provided by the Core Strategy. Work will now recommence on the Area Action Plan, with the next stage being the publication of a document on which there will be a further opportunity for public comment. It will then be passed to the Planning Inspectorate for the same Examination process as undertaken in respect of the Core Strategy.

Confirmation of the timetable for the remaining stages in the preparation of the Area Action Plan will follow.