

Land referencing letters from Heathrow Airport Ltd



The council understands that a number of residents in Heathrow Villages have recently received letters from Heathrow Airport Limited [HAL], requesting them to complete Land Interest Questionnaires in relation to their properties for Land Referencing purposes.

These letters will have caused concern and anxiety for some residents who may feel that this is the first step in HAL seeking to compulsorily acquire their properties as part of the Government's proposal to build a third runway at Heathrow Airport.

As residents will be aware, the council is seeking a judicial review of the Government's

proposal to expand Heathrow Airport and a ten day hearing will be taking place in the High Court in March. Notwithstanding this, HAL have already indicated that they will be submitting an application for a Development Consent Order and they will be undertaking a statutory consultation exercise in June, once the judicial review case has been heard.

The Land Interest Questionnaire has been designed to elicit information that HAL say they require in order to comply with their statutory obligations to identify people and organisations with a legal interest in property or land that may be affected by the proposed expansion project. HAL also say that they will use this information for the purpose of compiling a Book of Reference which is a statutory requirement for any prospective developer.

HAL are likely to contact residents again before the statutory consultation commences in the summer for the purpose of ascertaining whether the information which they hold about them is accurate. HAL say that this information will be used to issue consultation letters, notifying all interested parties of the statutory consultation periods and how to have their say on the proposed scheme.

For the avoidance of doubt, the letters which residents have received from HAL do not mean that their properties are being compulsorily acquired. Please note that it is for residents to decide whether they wish to respond to the Land Interest Questionnaires. However, if they do not respond, HAL may decide to follow this up by attempting to contact residents by phone, email, etc.

