

**Report to** Cabinet  
5 August 2015  
**Report of** Executive head of regeneration and development  
**Subject** Norwich International Aviation Academy

**Item**

**4**

## **KEY DECISION**

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### **Purpose**

To agree a grant in kind to facilitate the proposed Norwich International Aviation Academy.

### **Recommendation**

To approve a grant in kind, by way of a peppercorn rent, on property jointly owned by the city council and Norfolk County Council.

### **Corporate and service priorities**

The report helps to meet the corporate priority of a prosperous city and the service plan priority to create employment opportunities and encourage regeneration which will grow business rates and investment property income.

### **Financial implications**

The financial implications associated with this report are commercially sensitive and members are referred to the exempt report which will also be presented at this meeting.

**Ward/s:** All

**Cabinet member:** Councillor Stonard – Resources

### **Contact officers**

Andy Watt, head of city development services 01603 212691

David Rogers, client property and parking manager 01603 212463

### **Background documents**

None

# Report

## Background

1. Key stakeholders - including the city council - have been working closely with partners to deliver the Norwich International Aviation Academy (NIAA). This project builds on one of Norwich and Norfolk's key employment sectors as identified in the City Deal and the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership's Strategic Economic Plan.
2. The aviation sector, especially in engineering, is one that is projected to grow substantially locally, nationally and internationally. Norwich is in a prime position to capitalise on this with the creation of a training academy, where local people especially will be able to take advantage of this opportunity. The sector is identified as a major growth opportunity in both the Strategic Economic Plan and the City Deal.
3. By creating a major facility for aviation-related training close to Norwich Airport it will help attract businesses in this sector to grow, or to relocate, and the planned Norwich Aeropark will be ideally placed to accommodate new business. The project will also benefit from proximity to the proposed Norwich Northern Distributor Route.
4. The city council has a 40% interest in the wider Norwich Airport Industrial Estate and a facility such as this would be a major anchor tenant which could kick-start the redevelopment of this key employment area within the city, leading to greater employment opportunities and growth in both rental income and business rates.

## The proposal

5. The proposal is for the county council to use its borrowing powers to provide part of the finance to create a physical location for the Norwich International Aviation Skills Academy at a site close to the edge of Norwich International Airport, to be opened in time to commence training in September 2016.
6. The key aims of the proposal are to create a facility that will provide:
  - a) local jobs;
  - b) opportunities for local people to work in a national or international setting;
  - c) an opportunity for a national and international facility in Norwich.
7. The main training partners have worked on the development of a training plan. The key issue to consider is the need to create a custom-designed facility, enabling access to the airport itself which would initially focus on aviation engineering training to support the existing demand from KLM UK Engineering, but with the intention of this increasing over time to incorporate skills across six areas of aviation:
  - a) pilot;
  - b) engineer;
  - c) air traffic control;
  - d) cabin crew/crew;
  - e) airport operations;
  - f) operations, planning and crewing.

8. A business plan has been produced by the Aviation Skills Partnership (ASP) on behalf of the key partners and stakeholders. It sets out a costed proposal to create the academy and shows that enough training revenue can be derived from each element of the initial phase of the academy to cover:
  - a) the operational cost;
  - b) renewals;
  - c) the cost of servicing the loan required to create the facility.
9. The plan is largely based on training currently being delivered or for which a market has already been established.
10. The proposal is to use a site, located on the Norwich Airport Industrial Estate, which is jointly owned by the city council and the county council. Details of the location of the site and the financial implications can be found in the accompanying exempt report which will also be presented at this meeting.
11. The business case for the Aviation Academy relies upon there being a peppercorn rent for the land and premises which will require the city council to effectively provide a grant-in-kind in lieu of rent.

## Integrated impact assessment



**NORWICH**  
City Council

The IIA should assess **the impact of the recommendation** being made by the report

Detailed guidance to help with completing the assessment can be found [here](#). Delete this row after completion

### Report author to complete

**Committee:** Cabinet

**Committee date:** 5 August 2015

**Head of service:** Andy Watt

**Report subject:** Norwich International Aviation Academy

**Date assessed:** 23 July 2015

**Description:**

	Impact			
Economic (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Finance (value for money)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Other departments and services e.g. office facilities, customer contact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
ICT services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Economic development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Financial inclusion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Social (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Safeguarding children and adults	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<u>S17 crime and disorder act 1998</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Human Rights Act 1998	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Health and well being	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Equality and diversity (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Relations between groups (cohesion)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

	Impact			
Eliminating discrimination & harassment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Advancing equality of opportunity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Environmental (please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Natural and built environment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Waste minimisation & resource use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Pollution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sustainable procurement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Energy and climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Improved EPC ratings of new buildings
(Please add an 'x' as appropriate)	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Comments
Risk management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Recommendations from impact assessment
<b>Positive</b>
The positive implications outweigh the relatively small immediate financial implications
<b>Negative</b>
<b>Neutral</b>
<b>Issues</b>