

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

2020/21
Decision No.
2230

Record of Decision by Executive

Monday, 2 November 2020

Portfolio	Policy and Resources
Subject:	Management and Operation of Solent Airport - Extension of contract with Regional and City Airports Limited
Report of:	Director of Planning and Regeneration
Corporate Priority:	Maintain and extend prosperity

Purpose:

To approve the extension of the existing contract for the management and operation of the Solent Airport (and the provision of related support services) with Regional and City Airports Limited for 12 months from 01 April 2021.

Regional and City Airports Limited are contracted by the Council to manage and operate Solent Airport. Initially a five-year contract procured through an OJEU process in 2016, the contract allows for an extension of up to 5 further years. This paper proposes a 12-month extension from 01 April 2021.

Options Considered:

As recommendation.

Decision:

RESOLVED that the Executive approves:

- (a) an extension to the existing contract with Regional and City Airports Limited for the management and operation of Solent Airport of 12 months from 01 April 2021; and
- (b) the procurement of independent expert advice to inform the future strategic direction of the Solent Airport, its management and operations.

Reason:

Initial evidence shows that demand at Solent Airport has been impacted in a number of market segments. In addition to this, Covid-19 recovery plans at competitor airfields also appear to be entering and targeting the same market segments as Solent Airport, increasing competition.

It is therefore recommended that the existing contract is extended for 12 months whilst independent advice is procured.

Officers will continue to work with RCA to establish the full impact of Covid-19, develop a recovery plan and investigate risks and liabilities.

Confirmed as a true record:

Councillor SDT Woodward (Executive Leader)

Monday, 2 November 2020