

**FAO: Jane Custance**  
**Director of Planning & Development**  
London Borough of Newham  
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## **London City Airport – Planning Application 22/03045/VAR**

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Dear Jane

I am writing to you in my capacity as Chief Executive Officer of VolkerWessels UK, one of the leading construction and engineering businesses in the country and based in London and the Southeast, to support the above Application.

You will undoubtedly be only too aware of the negative impacts recent events, including COVID and the war in Ukraine, have had on the UK economy, particularly on the cost of living, and that this is affecting the vast majority of UK citizens, including the residents of your borough.

The changes London City Airport (LCY) are seeking under the above referenced Application are in my opinion typical of the very measures we need to promote to attract further investment into the UK and support the economic recovery.

In the construction industry we are certainly experiencing strong headwinds and seeing evidence of further slowing down in public and private sector investment, with both the number of new planning applications and the number of project starts in decline, on average a 24.6% industry decline compared to 3 months ago. Any proposals that will promote investment in the UK, generating employment opportunities and investment in social value, in addition to that being directly realised at the airport, should be supported.

I note that LCY have responded positively to the results of the recent Consultation, with their original plans being curtailed in terms of operating hours. I further note that the proposed mitigation package, including an increased Community Fund and a new Transport Fund, further recognises the issues raised during the engagement, these measures will not only mitigate, but will in my view promote increased social benefits.

Finally, I would commend LCY in their self-imposed condition to mandate that any new slots are only utilised by cleaner and greener latest generation aircraft. We all need to be striving to achieve net zero through whatever means possible, I hope that other airport owners / operators follow the example being set by LCY.

I believe the proposed changes to the existing planning application will be positive in all ways, benefiting the residents and economies of the London Borough of Newham, London and the wider UK.

Yours sincerely

**Richard Offord**  
**CEO VolkerWessels UK**