



056 30 June 2009

NEW DATE FOR AIRPORT MEETING

The meeting to determine plans to expand London Ashford Airport (Lydd) has been rescheduled.

It will now be held on 23 September and not 9 July as planned. The decision to move the date was taken by Shepway District Council Chief Executive, Alistair Stewart, on Monday (29 June).

He said he made his decision after a request from the lawyers acting for the owner of the airport - who also asked for the publication of the council's report on the planning applications to be postponed.

"I don't think it's appropriate to postpone the publication of the report, however I have decided to reschedule the meeting. It will now be held on Wednesday 23 September and not Thursday 9 July as originally planned.

"Although there is no legal requirement for me to reschedule the meeting, I believe doing this will be useful and helpful and will give all parties - both for and against the expansion plans - more time to properly and fully consider the report, which is long, complex and often technical."

The owners of the airport want to build a new 500,000 passenger terminal building and extend the runway.

The report will be available at council offices and at www.shepway.gov.uk on Wednesday 1 July.

ENDS