

Press release

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**Foster + Partners welcomes support from Mayor Boris Johnson for Thames Hub proposal**

Foster + Partners welcomes today's comments from Mayor Boris Johnson, which recognise the wider economic and regeneration potential of a new hub airport on the Isle of Grain. For the past five years, the team has been developing integrated infrastructure proposals for the UK, which include a major hub airport – detailed plans for the airport will be formally submitted to the Airports Commission on Friday.

A Thames Estuary airport, complemented by point-to-point airports at Gatwick, Stansted and Birmingham, would provide a four-runway, 24-hour hub facility for 110m passengers per year in its first phase, and could open in 15 years. Unlike Heathrow, the site will allow for future expansion, unlock trade connectivity and serve London's growth.

The proposal is public-transport led and utilises existing rail infrastructure in its first phase. The team welcomes the Mayor's commitment to upgrading public transport across London to serve future population growth, and his recognition that this can be integrated with the airport's future expansion.

Notes to editors:

To read the press release issued by the Mayor of London earlier today in full, please see:

<http://www.london.gov.uk/media/mayor-press-releases/2013/07/mayor-of-london-sets-out-the-three-possible-locations-for-a-new>

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