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30 September 2011

NEWS RELEASE

Application for temporary accommodation for Airport workers

PUBLIC Services has applied for permission for temporary accommodation for up to 150 workers to carry out essential maintenance and improvements at Guernsey Airport.

The two-year project will require dozens of specialist staff with experience of similar construction work. The Department's preferred contractor, Lagan Construction, wants to install accommodation on private land near the Mallard Complex. The application also identifies measures that will be in place to minimise the risk of disruption to neighbours.

Although the compound would have space for all staff required at the peak of construction next year, Lagan still plans to recruit locally as well. This could reduce the requirement to bring in workers and house them in temporary accommodation.

The compound will comprise one or two-bedroom portable cabins, specifically designed for projects of this nature. Each unit will be equipped with running water, toilet and shower facilities, television and internet access.

The site will also have a canteen, laundry, and a rest area with satellite television and recreation facilities. There will be parking for up to 40 cars, however staff will also be encouraged to take advantage of bicycles provided by the company.

Lagan Construction has confirmed that disturbance from the compound will not be tolerated, and security staff will be employed to ensure that noise is kept to a minimum. Anyone who does not comply with the company's strict policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

'We want to be very clear the company will not tolerate any nuisance to neighbours. We will have security around the clock to ensure that there is no disturbance, particularly at night,' Lagan project manager said Brian Cronin.

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All staff, including any local workers, will be subjected to police and criminal record checks.

Housing Department will require satisfactory police checks before issuing a short-term housing licence to any non-local staff. Enhanced criminal record checks are also required for all people working airside at the Airport, which would disbar anyone who had a recent conviction for any offence against a person.

‘Airports are by their very nature subject to tight security and as such we know, and our employees know, that there will be stringent requirements for anyone having access to airside. Anyone working in this environment is going to have to first satisfy the required checks,’ said Mr Cronin.

Lagan Construction has already held open days in the island, before submitting a tender for the works, and had also had separate meetings with Guernsey sub-contractors and suppliers. The company subsequently identified several areas in its tender submission where local staff could be involved. These included various construction jobs, as well as security roles.

Local firms are also expected to be engaged for aspects such as haulage, and small plant and equipment hire.

ENDS

For further information, contact:-

Public Services Department

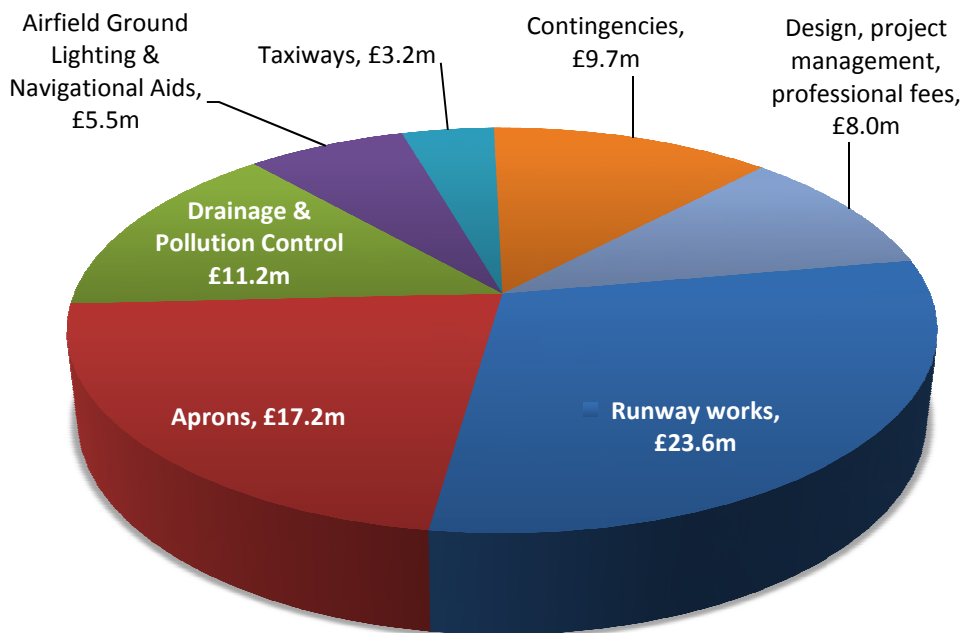
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Notes to editors:-

- Guernsey Airport opened in 1939, and today provides a gateway to the island for nearly one million business or leisure travellers each year.
- In 2009, the States approved a major programme of essential maintenance and improvements, aimed at equipping the current airport to serve the island for the next 30 years.
- The runway was last resurfaced in 1974, and would normally be expected to last between 15 and 30 years. Other areas are of similar age - in some cases older - and also need replacing. These include the concrete apron areas where the aircraft park; the drainage system; and the airfield ground lighting, which is obsolete. The taxiways linking the aprons and runway also require overlaying, levelling, and realignment.
- In July 2011 the States approved Public Services’ preferred contractor, Lagan Construction. The company has completed more than 35 airfield projects worldwide in the past 10 years, and was one of four firms invited to tender for the contract.

• **Project Budget:**



About Lagan Construction

- **Lagan Construction** consistently delivers innovative, high quality civil engineering and building solutions internationally to public and private sector clients through a network of local offices. Lagan Construction’s specialist teams have expertise in a range of sectors including roads, airports, water, defence, marine, power and rail, where they undertake infrastructure, capital and maintenance projects through a variety of procurement routes.