MANCHESTER AIRPORT: £1BN PLAN TO 'TRANSFORM' SITE APPROVED

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A £1bn programme to "transform" Manchester Airport has been approved.

The 10-year plan includes doubling the size of Terminal 2, expanding self-service check-in facilities and building a larger security hall.

Manchester City Council also approved plans to demolish Terminal 1 and build a ramp from an M56 slip road to give access to a new departures forecourt.

The work, which is due to begin at the end of the year, also includes improvements to Terminal 3.

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Image captionThe airport currently employs 19,000 on site

Manchester Airports Group (MAG) said the investment will mean it "continues to thrive as a national asset".

Charlie Cornish, chief executive of MAG, said: "The transformation programme will ensure the airport plays its full part in driving economic growth and develops as a key part of the UK transport infrastructure."

Manchester Airport in numbers

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- Manchester Airport officially opened in 1938
- Around 22 million passengers pass through the airport every year
- About 19,000 people are employed on the site
- Two runways serve the airport with three terminals, 42 air bridges and 254 check-in desks
- Around a million pints of beer are downed by passengers each year along with 300,000 breakfasts and more than three million hot drinks.

Source: Manchester Airport

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Image captionImprovement works to Terminal 3 have been included in the plans

Image copyrightManchester Airports Group

Image captionPlans to transform the airport will lead to more flights from south Manchester

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