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I strongly oppose expansion of London Luton Airport. There are several reasons for this including the climate emergency, increased noise/air pollution from overhead aircraft and more traffic pollution/congestion in the vicinity of the airport.

Luton Rising uses the taglines: Our Airport, Our Community, Our planet.

How can this enterprise aspire to be a sustainability leader, as stated on its website, when it plans to expand the number of passengers from 18 to 32 million? Surely this is greenwashing in its lowest form.

Growth at the airport cannot be environmentally-focused by increasing the number of flights at a time of climate crisis.

Growth at the airport cannot be environmentally-focused by having no power over airlines to use quieter and more-environmentally friendly aircraft.

Growth at the airport cannot be environmentally-focused by making it possible for more people to travel by land and air.

Luton Council has a conflict of interest when it comes to making decisions about the airport and its expansion. It should focus on money-raising schemes that don't damage the environment and don't negatively affect the lives of local people. It's time for the Council to diversify.

There is no valid reason for expanding the airport. It has sufficient capacity for the area it serves. It is environmentally irresponsible to expand the airport and encourage more travel by land and air.

There is a climate crisis. People understand that they must cut their carbon emissions by travelling less, especially by air. Luton Council should show leadership in this respect.

More flights from Luton means more flights in Europe, adversely affecting those in the flight paths in the UK and abroad and contributing to global warming beyond the UK.

Moreover, building a new terminal on a wildlife site (Wigmore Valley Park) shows a complete disregard for the environment.

We live in the East ward of Harpenden between Station Road and Crabtree Lane. The back of our house faces down the hill in the direction of the Batford/Wheathampstead border.

When aircraft take off in an Easterly direction, some loop round and approach the back of our house, gaining height as they approach. We can hear the rumble of the engines over a sustained period, plane after plane, and this is sufficient to disturb us in the house, especially in the rear-facing rooms, and in the garden.

This noise pollution is relatively new. I was born and raised in Harpenden, have raised my family here and have lived in all corners of the town. Aircraft noise was not a problem here until the late 2010s.

With the exception of the pandemic years, we are awoken by early morning flights and disturbed while working from home by noisy aircraft passing overhead. Dog walks and gardening are tainted by aircraft noise.

It is not acceptable to fly aircraft at night or early in the morning over people's homes. People can't thrive on a few hours of sleep a night. The disturbance has an adverse effect on sleep and therefore on health and quality of life.

In 2019, after vacating the rear-facing bedrooms of our house for over a year due to aircraft noise, we replaced two double-glazed bedrooms windows (which had been installed in 2013) with triple-glazed windows having acoustic trickle vents. This cost us around £5,800 which was not recoverable from any noise insulation scheme provided by London Luton Airport.

I attended a consultation event in Harpenden a year or two ago. I learnt that the focus of Luton Rising was to reduce the environmental, contamination and noise impacts of a new terminal rather than the impact of the aircraft themselves. I spoke to a person who specialised in noise control. He agreed that there were no plans to force airlines to invest in quieter and greener aircraft.

Aircraft pollution and noise must be reduced not increased. Noise contour limits are regularly breached by London Luton Airport rather than respected and lowered.

Luton Rising aims to be socially impactful yet the airport it owns creates extensive noise and air pollution. Financial support to local areas can't compensate for the damage done to the environment.

In terms of business travel, investment needs to be made in more environmentally-friendly ways of travelling, especially by train. In my work, I no longer have to fly to Europe because meetings are held by Video Conference. Business travel does not justify continued airport growth.

In terms of social travel, families can keep in touch much better than in the past with the increased use of online video communication. There is less reason to fly to see loved ones.

Better use of the funds raised by the presently-sized airport would be to invest in alternative sources of employment and other schemes to benefit local communities rather than using these funds for expensive and unjustified plans for expanding the airport.

I am not against the presence of an airport in Luton. In the past it has been an asset. However, it is now a nuisance as it has grown too big and the noise and pollution it creates negatively impacts those living nearby.

Local community and social benefits are instantly achieved by not increasing air pollution, passenger travel on local roads and aircraft noise; in summary, by no expansion of London Luton Airport by Luton Rising.