

I'm a South Luton resident, living between [REDACTED] directly under the flight path.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today. My main focus will be on noise issues.

When the airport operates westerly departures - up to 3/4 of the time - we are continually impacted from around 5:30 am.

My house is of more recent construction than many in the area and is fully double glazed but I can still hear the planes.

In the evening when watching tv it is often necessary to pause the broadcast whilst the planes go over.

There is little respite at night as delayed and permitted departures continue. As an example I was woken up at 3 am last Sunday by a Wizz Air flight departing for Romania, delayed from earlier that evening.

This is aside from all of the cargo planes that regularly thunder over, that other speakers have mentioned.

Even when the airport is operating easterly departures, we're impacted by arrivals, in particular with aircraft arriving throughout the night.

In the summer with the need to have windows open during the night it is of course infinitely worse.

When you are outside you have to pause conversations every few minutes as planes fly over. A noise monitor in Cutenhoe Road records departing flights regularly in excess of 80 db(A).

I have highlighted in my prior representation that it has been impossible to identify which individual properties fall within which noise contour band.

The maps provided at consultation events are so high level and low resolution that the drawn lines themselves cover a large area.

I challenged Graham Olver of Luton Rising, on this previously and he promised to make available a look up tool on their website prior to the submission of the DCO as they had the data. This never happened.

The noise insulation scheme that is offered is exceptionally limited. You are restricted to one provider and they don't offer triple glazing as an option.

I'm aware that the applicant is proposing an expansion to this scheme, but they refuse to comment on whether acceptance of limited funding under the current scheme would debar a resident from claiming further under the new proposed scheme.

Regardless of this, nothing can be done to mitigate the effects when you want to spend quality time outside. Are we expected to live our lives in hermetically sealed boxes ?

Already 18 million passengers a year is hard to endure. To near enough double these numbers again could be unendurable.

I worry about the effects on my health and others as a result of sleep deprivation, depression and pollution.

This is the area that I have lived virtually my whole life in - why should I be forced to move to somewhere I have no connection to, just to try and find a better quality of life ?

During the conduct of these hearings and your site visits you will have had some small experience of the numbers of flights and noise. For us residents this is continual.

I have trust that you will consider seriously how an increase to 32 million would adversely affect the quality of residents lives.

As my time was limited, I'll need to comment on other material issues in writing.

During my oral submission the ExA drew my attention to documents AS 126 - 127 and AS 128, which relate to noise compensation arrangements and noise contour boundaries.

I have had a look at these documents and they do not address the issue that I raised in my oral submission of the inability to define at an individual property level, which property falls within which noise contour band.

At the resolution at which they have been produced, when you zoom in the boundary lines themselves are wider than some roads. It would be perfectly possible for the applicant to allocate in a database look up tool which property falls within which noise contour band, but they have consistently failed to do so, despite promises to the contrary.

I also note that the submitted policy appears to be a down grade from the draft that was produced prior to the DCO being submitted. In the draft document the applicant refers to annual reviews of noise contours, but in the DCO submitted document they are instead referring to reviews only every 5 years.