

From: [Cllr \(Lib\) Stephens, Steven \(Luton\)](#)
To: [Luton Airport](#)
Subject: OPEN FLOOR HEARING 3 (OFH3) and ISSUE SPECIFIC HEARING 8 (ISH8)
Date: 29 November 2023 16:40:48
Attachments: [Airport Motion for Next Full Council.docx](#)

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Open Floor Hearing 3 (OFH3)

As requested after my oral contribution at the Open Floor Hearing 3, I attach the motion that I presented at the Full Council Meeting on the 14th November. I would like to reiterate that this motion was passed and supported by all the Councillors at that meeting.

I think that it would also be useful for you to listen to the recording of the presentation that I made in moving the motion. I made it quite clear in that presentation that although some further airport expansion could be supported as the goals of such expansion would be to provide additional jobs for the town's residents and further income for the Council and worthy causes, it had to be predicated on finding solutions for the aircraft noise and worsening air quality blighting the lives of residents in South, Central, Vauxhall, Stopsley and Wigmore Wards. I also indicated that expansion should be considerate and at the level that the Town really needed. In essence therefore, the Council agreed that expansion should only proceed once solutions were found for current problems caused by the airport and airlines and those that are likely to worsen, as the airport expands further.

At the Open Hearing, I also mentioned that many residents in South Ward do not believe that we have the necessary infrastructure for further expansion, as the Luton Airport Express from St Pancras only runs every half hour and if there are major problems on the M1, leading to junction 10, it is likely to lead to queues on the main approach road to the airport and to drivers looking for alternative routes such as London Road, Crawley Green Rd, Cutenhoe Road, Vauxhall Way and Eaton Green Road etc. Many residents also believe that a big expansion will impede Luton's ability to achieve a carbon neutral status by 2040.

Finally, at the Hearing, the Panel Chair /Lead, advised that a visit by the panel had been made to the Cutenhoe Road area during the previous Inspectorate Hearings to hear for themselves, the effects of aircraft noise. I have since spoken with residents in Cutenhoe Rd and West Hill who advised that there was not a lot of aircraft noise on the day that they visited, so it would not have given a true reflection of noise levels that residents usually suffer. I would recommend that a further visit takes place.

Issue Specific Hearing 8 (ISH8)

Unfortunately I was not able to stay longer online to put my questions through the panel to the applicant, so I would like to ask them here.

- 1) What aircraft noise modelling and air quality modelling has been conducted to show expected levels at the incremental rate of expansion of say 22.5 PPM, 27million and 32 Million or other PPM levels modelled? Where can we access this data?
- 2) Why has Luton Rising / London Luton Airport Ltd not provided a deadline by which

airlines wishing to continue using the airport, must replace their aeroplanes with quieter less polluting planes?

- 3) What are Luton Rising's plans for additional noise insulations grants? Why do they think they will be sufficient and who will be entitled to these grants?

I look forward to receiving the replies

Kind regards

Cllr (Lib) Stephens, Steven (Luton)



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Before printing, please think about the ENVIRONMENT!

The Council:

Recognises the vital role that London Luton Airport plays in the provision of income, charitable and community funding and jobs for the residents of Luton.

Understands that appropriate and proportionate expansion of the airport will help to increase, both income and the availability of jobs for the Town's population.

Equally recognises that more stringent measures are urgently needed to reduce the impact of noise pollution and worsening air quality that the airport, surface access traffic, and associated airline companies cause to Luton residents in general, and in particular, to those living in South, Wigmore, Stopsley, Vauxhall, Round Green and Central Wards.

Therefore requests, the Chief Executive, together with other relevant Council Officers, to initiate discussions with London Luton Airport Ltd (Luton Rising), London Luton Airport Operations Ltd and the Civil Aviation Authority (NATS), to seek solutions to reduce the effects of detrimental pollutants and noise blight for the residents.

Consideration in these discussions should be given to the possibility of:

- Moving the western flight paths further to the South
- Setting a firm deadline for airlines to replace older, noisier aircraft with more modern less noisy planes
- Placing more permanent noise monitors nearer to the populated areas of Luton, being mindful that readings from monitors currently located in residents' gardens cannot be used to take legal action against airlines found to be in breach of statutory and locally imposed noise and pollution targets.