

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Luton Airport](#)  
**Subject:** London Luton Airport Expansion  
**Date:** 27 August 2024 09:44:57

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Registration 20038026

Dear Case Team,

I received an email on Friday 23 August asking for my comments on the latest representations regarding the proposed expansion of Luton Airport to 32 million passenger movements per annum. From the documents I have reviewed, these generally seem to concern matters of implementation such as noise, traffic, environmental impacts, infrastructure etc.

I believe the stage we are at is Decision, and that this follows the Recommendation stage.

Reviewing the documents on the portal I am struggling to find the Planning Inspectorate's Recommendation. Please can you send me a link to the relevant document.

The reason why I am requesting this is because the questions I have cannot be answered by London Luton Airport or Luton Rising, but only by the Planning Inspectorate.

I will explain:

The expansion of air travel and the broadly detrimental impact this has in the immediate vicinity is of concern, but ultimately it is hoped that there is a wider national benefit.

I was delighted when the proposal to expand Luton Airport was referred to the Planning Inspectorate since in London Luton's proposal I rather doubted that the expansion of this airport in this location would, when all matters are considered, result in the best outcome.

I was hoping that in its deliberations the Planning Inspectorate would determine:

1. Whether there is a need for this expansion?
2. If there is a need, is there an overall public benefit from the expansion in this location?
3. Are there superior alternative sites and proposals?

Obviously Luton Town Council are the promoters of the scheme, and are therefore unable to answer the above objectively. I have asked Luton Rising for an overall economic cost benefit analysis, but they claim that this is commercially sensitive given that the contract to operate the airport is due to be retendered in the next few years.

So my question to you is: Has the case been made that expansion at Luton Airport is an

overall benefit to the wider community as Luton Rising proclaim? Over the last decade, the expansion of the airport to its current 18m size , the money generated for Luton Town Council and the jobs created in the local community, have done nothing to alleviated the poverty, housing constraint and pressure on local authority services which are particularly prevalent in Luton. The proposal is strongly opposed by all the councils that boarder the airport (other than Luton Town Council), so clearly these authorities regard the expansion of the airport as only adding to these pressures, rather than bringing jobs and economic benefit. What has the Planning Inspectorate concluded?

In addition: Has the case been made that expansion at Luton is preferable to expansion at other airports?

I look forward to your responses. If clarification of my concerns is needed, I am very responsive to email, or you can call me on [REDACTED].

Thank you,

Richard Holmes