From:
To:
Luton Airport

Subject: Luton Airport expansion

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## **Dear Inspector**

The negative impacts of the new Airspace Deployment (AD6) for Luton Airport are being felt in the village of Bourn and the surrounding area. The picture is not a good one. We now experience regular flights over Bourn causing considerable noise nuisance as aircraft deploy speed brakes to reduce altitude. In place of the promoted strategic routes, HOLD areas, and funnels, we are experiencing a kind of 'free for all' where aircraft overfly rural areas untrammelled. To be honest, the operational reality calls into question the point of original consultation.

These new flight paths and approaches to Luton matter a great deal when considering an expansion to the airport. If these issues are not addressed now then villages like Bourn, and others in South West Cambridgeshire, face a bleak and noisy future when Luton is eventually expanded. Noise nuisance and disturbance is already a problem with current aircraft traffic; increases in air traffic will make matters considerably worse. There needs to be clarity on aircraft approaches and tighter adherence to strategic routes and hold areas. Without this, the whole of rural SW Cambridge and East Bedfordshire will be blighted by aircrafts noise and nuisance.

Eurocontrol data shows that Luton is already the worst performing London airport against a number of noise and environmental metrics. No further expansion should be approved unless substantial improvements have been demonstrated.

As stated, we already experience significant negative consequences as a result of the AD6 sub-optimal tactical behaviours. We have asked the CCA to review and address these practices through changes and mitigations. We strongly believe that no infrastructure approval should be given until these issues have been satisfactorily resolved.

We recommend that the Planning Inspectorate review the recent Relas report submitted to the CAA as part of the Swanwick Improvement Programme AD6 Stage 7 consultation. This comprehensive document contains compelling evidence underpinning many of Bourn's concerns.

