From:
To: Luton Airport

Subject: Consultation: London Luton Airport Expansion- Planning Inspectorate

Date: 05 September 2024 14:38:38

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To the Planning Inspectorate,

## Re: Opposition to the Proposed London Luton Airport Expansion- National Infrastructure Consenting

https://national-infrastructureconsenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/TR020001

I am writing on behalf of Little Gransden's Parish Council and in my capacity as their vice-chair, to express our strong opposition to the proposed expansion of London Luton Airport (LLA).

Since the implementation of AD6 airspace change, our parishioners have sent us their concerns and objections from the operations of LLA that allows the aircrafts to airbrake resulting in severe howling noise nuisance. The late night and early morning flights are also intrusive and have negatively impacted on our residents' sleep.

**Aircraft Noise:** LLA is ranked the worst in the UK for aircraft noise by Eurocontrol, with detrimental effects on residents' health, including hearing damage, sleep deprivation, stress, and anxiety. The airport has not taken adequate measures to address these issues, and further expansion would exacerbate the problem.

**Environmental Damage:** The United Nations Environment Programme states that Scope 3 emissions account for 70% of carbon emissions from business activities. LLA's operations significantly contribute to CO2 emissions, hindering the government's net-zero targets. Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) is currently unrealistic and unsustainable.

**Health Impact:** A May 2023 report by the British Medical Journal highlights that 90% of children breathe in PM2.5 particles, with 16% of deaths among children attributable to pollution. Further expansion of LLA will exacerbate health problems and increase costs for the national healthcare system.

**Economic Impacts:** While the aviation industry provides employment benefits, data from the New Economics Foundation indicates a net loss of £44 billion from the UK aviation industry in 2015. This suggests that we are subsidizing foreign-owned airlines at the expense of public health and its burden on the NHS.

**Recommendations:** Given the environmental and health impacts caused by LLA, we strongly urge the following actions before any further expansion is considered:

- 1. Pause Luton's expansion until solutions for aircraft noise and sustainable, environmentally safer fuels are implemented.
- 2. Stop low-cost airlines from harming residents' health, damaging the environment, and causing pollution without clear economic benefits.
- 3. Prohibit stepped descents and air braking practices that create disruptive noise and significantly disturb residents.
- 4. Ban or impose heavy fines on aircraft that generate excessive noise due to their age or poor design.

- 5. Forbid late-night and early-morning flights to reduce noise pollution during sensitive hours.
- 6. Require comprehensive reporting of LLA's emissions from Scope 1, 2, and 3.
- 7. Create an independent body to oversee LLA's monitoring, compliance, and complaint management.
- 8. Demand monthly public reporting of Eurocontrol-standard metrics for LLA, including noise and CO2 efficiency.
- 9. Consider setting conditions for LLA's sustainability plan for aviation fuel and all operations.
- 10. Recognize the greater impact of aircraft noise in rural areas, where lower background noise levels amplify the disturbance.

Furthermore, please refer to Relas' report titled:RELAS\_AD6\_Stage\_7\_Common\_Submission\_version\_1.0 , which challenges and refutes certain aspects of LLA's PIR Review data. The report can be obtained from Relas via email : <a href="mailto:info@relas.uk">info@relas.uk</a>

Noushin Rostami

Vice Chair

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Little Gransden Parish Council