

**From:** Jerome Smith  
**Sent:** 05 September 2024 23:05  
**To:** Luton Airport  
**Subject:** Response to 'Secretary of State Consultation Letter', 23 Aug 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

In response to the 'Secretary of State Consultation Letter', dated 23 August 2024, I have three points to convey.

First, I simply do not understand how this proposal fits with the UK's commitment to act on climate change. In July this year, the Climate Change Committee's assessment was that "only a third of the emissions reductions required to achieve the country's 2030 target are currently covered by credible plans." [\[source\]](#) I appreciate that 'net zero' means that the impact from the near-doubling of Luton Airport's capacity – and does that include not only the increase in air traffic but the construction too? – could be offset by other initiatives, but I remain to be convinced.

Second, I am a resident of Hardwick, which is now under the flight path for Luton following recent changes [\[ref\]](#). What will be the effect of the proposed expansion? Will the current paths be busier, or will new paths be created? I've not received any communication about the airport expansion plan, I've only learned about it through word-of-mouth. Does this mean the expected impact for this area is below a threshold, or that communications have not been sufficient?

Third is a more general point, which could apply to any consultation of this kind. The number of documents and their length is simply overwhelming. A cynical sort might wonder if there's a strategy to overwhelm the public with information, simply to put off all but the most committed readers. While the full details should rightly be available for review, I feel there needs to be a set of key points communicated, preferably in a separate area of the project website. Clearer communication would promote a more open and transparent process.

Yours faithfully,

J. Smith