

From: Edward O'Connell
Sent: 06 September 2024 13:20
To: Luton Airport
Cc: [REDACTED]@parliament.uk
Subject: Feedback on Luton Airport Expansion DCO Planning Application

1. The Cart Before the Horse

The counties of Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire, are enduring the unbearable consequences of the Luton Airport AD6 implementation. In parallel we now discover an ostensibly separate but in fact directly connected Luton Airport Expansion application also in progress. Both initiatives appear to have come to the critical approval stage during the peak summer holidays thus denying many public representatives and residents the opportunity properly to engage in this process. Additionally, consideration is being given to Luton Airport expansion even before acknowledging the shortcomings and essential remedial action to the Luton AD6 implementation. This cannot be appropriate. A more logical sequence for these decisions must surely be found.

2. What problem Are We Trying To Solve?

Eurocontrol data shows Luton is the worst performing London airport in terms of noise, pollution and environmental impact. AD6 has already made the situation worse and should not be approved in its current form. Airport expansion must surely be inconceivable until Luton Airport is fully compliant with the standards of performance it presented in the AD6 proposal application. Before any expansion can be approved Luton Airport must surely demonstrably meet the standards of performance and legal obligations including to communities on which the commencement of AD6 was approved by the CAA. Based upon interaction with Luton Airport during the AD6 implementation, the airport appears dismissive of legitimate challenges to its performance.

3. RELAS Report

RELAS was formed to challenge the AD6 changes, to raise public awareness and engage local MPs, in campaigning to get AD6 abandoned or re-designed. The effects of noise pollution on health are significant, including irritation, stress, cognitive impairment, sleep disturbance and cardiovascular disease. Local MP Anthony Brown used a parliamentary debate on AD6 to highlight several cases of constituents whose health has been seriously affected.

Throughout the implementation period RELAS has been monitoring the impact of AD6. It has also attempted engagement with Luton Airport with seemingly little success. The attached RELAS report details numerous fundamental failings in the implementation of AD6 and highlights significant inconsistencies between the approved AD6 Proposal and actual results. It notes that residential areas, directly affected by routine variation to the approved flight paths, were excluded from the Consultation phase of the scheme. Please review the RELAS report before deciding upon the Luton Airport Expansion proposal.

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A hard copy of this report can be requested via info@relas.co.uk.

Thank you for your attention,

Edward O'Connell

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