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Sent: 06 September 2024 14:16
To: Luton Airport
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[REDACTED]@graveleycambspc.org.uk;
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Subject: Application by London Luton Airport seeking Development Consent for proposed London Luton Airport Expansion

Dear Sirs

Graveley Parish Council Mid Cambridgeshire (GPC) wishes to respond to the Secretary of State for the Department for Transport communication dated 23rd August 2024.

GPC have serious concerns that the London Luton Airport (LLA) proposed expansion would create further negative impact to the health and quality of life to residents.

GPC are concerned that the LLA current operation of the AD6 Airspace Change is severely affecting Graveley together with the surrounding villages of Papworth St Agnes, Yelling and Toseland.

These concerns include but are not limited to the following:

- LLA failed to consult with GPC or its residents during the LLA consultation process, this is despite the fact that LLA intended to fly low altitude aircraft over and in close proximity to Graveley village.
- Notwithstanding this lack of consultation, GPC understand that in practice the LLA operation of AD6 differs significantly from that detailed in the LLA public consultation and design principles at that time. Further, only a very small proportion of LLA air traffic are utilising the consulted routes and stack procedure. Both of these LLA failures are causing severe disruption and nuisance to Graveley village and surrounding area.
- The impact of LLA operation of AD6 flight path over Graveley village has caused; the ruination of the peaceful nature of our resident's countryside homes, sleep deprivation, stress and anxiety. In addition, various health and environmental impacts are being inflicted as a direct result of the low altitude pollutants being emitted from the aircraft exhaust gasses.
- Many of LLA flights fly and turn in close proximity to and directly over Graveley resident's houses, gardens and foot paths. These flights emit an horrendous combination of loud roar, heavy rumble, pulse and whistle together with many instances of air brake screech. These are most unpleasant, distressing, disturbing and annoying to residents with the resultant loss of amenity and enjoyment of resident's property and gardens.
- Typically, LLA flights over Graveley are 7 days a week commencing at 06.50 and continue intermittently during the day up to and including 1AM in the morning. On many occasions these include pockets of non-stop continuous (convoy) flights, some extend in excess of two hours. Residents suffer 'one plane every two to five minutes' as a result of convoy flights.
- Graveley is otherwise a stress free, quiet and tranquil setting with very low ambient noise levels - unlike that experienced in towns and cities. Residents enjoy bird song and Church bell chimes. Most of the residents moved to Graveley to escape from the hustle, bustle and noise associated with living in towns and Cities.
- LLA have failed to respond to the multitude of complaints from residents.
- Despite many requests from residents, LLA have failed to provide any information nor proposals to mitigate the noise, vibration and environmental effect caused by LLA flights.

GPC note this is contrary to the Government's objective in the Overarching Aviation Noise Policy Statement "*The impact of aviation noise must be mitigated as much as is practicable and realistic to do so, limiting, and where possible reducing, the total adverse impacts on health and quality of life from aviation noise*".

GPC understand that LLA LD6 operation has not delivered significant CO2 or noise profile improvements, and have failed to progress towards ICAO net zero targets. GPC further understand that LLA is identified by Euro Control Data as the worst performing London airport in respect of noise pollution and environmental impact.

GPC consider that these LLA AD6 operational issues and the resultant severe disruption currently caused to residents should be resolved and substantially improved upon before any further expansion of LLA is considered or approved.

GPC are concerned that any LLA increase in flight numbers and earlier / later flight times will drastically further impair Graveley village resident's health and quality of life.

GPC requests the Secretary of State considers and take account of these GPC concerns and factual statements within their evaluation of the LLA expansion proposals.

Thank you

Yours faithfully

Sarah Phillips
Clerk to Graveley Parish Council Mid Cambridgeshire

Tel: [REDACTED]

Correspondence Address: [REDACTED]

Please note that I work part-time, so there may be a delay in my response.

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