

From: Hugh Hunt
Sent: 06 September 2024 21:18
To: Luton Airport
Cc: info@relas.uk
Subject: Luton Airport AD6

I am writing regarding the AD6 Airspace Design Consultation and the DCO Planning Application for Luton Airport expansion. These are closely linked.

The CAA (Civil Aviation Authority) handles airspace safety and compliance with aviation rules. But you, The Planning Inspectorate, oversees infrastructure planning, including expansion proposals like Luton's.

It is clear that airspace and infrastructure cannot be considered in isolation. No expansion should proceed until the AD6 airspace design is proven safe and effective.

I have some concerns:

Firstly, the timing of the Consultation during the holiday season will reduce meaningful input. Also I note that the deadline for the DCO Planning Application is September 6 while the deadline for feedback on the AD6 Airspace Design Consultation is September 11. I wonder how decisions on infrastructure will be made before the airspace design has been fully evaluated?

I am concerned that the Eurocontrol data identifies Luton as the worst-performing London airport in terms of noise pollution and environmental impact. Approving further expansion under these conditions is irresponsible unless substantial improvements are made. The impact on Local Communities Residents in Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, and Bedfordshire have reported severe disruption due to the current AD6 airspace design. These issues must be resolved before any expansion is considered.

I also worry that there are tactical behaviours observed in Luton's airspace, with flights occurring at all hours, often just minutes apart. No increase in arrivals should be approved until Luton Airport complies with the AD6 consultation standards.

I would urge you to review the RELAS report (RELAS_AD6_Stage_7_Common_Submission_version_1.0), which has already been submitted to the CAA as part of the AD6 consultation. This report provides critical evidence of the problems caused by the current airspace design, as well as detailed recommendations for improvement. The Planning Inspectorate must hold Luton Airport accountable for addressing these concerns before any infrastructure approvals are granted.

Best wishes

Hugh Hunt

Professor Hugh Hunt
Cambridge University Department of Engineering
Professor of Engineering Dynamics and Vibration

Praelector and Fellow, Trinity College Cambridge
Deputy Director, Centre for Climate Repair Cambridge

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