From:

To:

Luton Airport

Subject: Luton Airport Extension, Interested party 20040313

Date: 21 November 2024 19:01:46

Interested Party reference number 20040313

Dear Sir / Madam

This letter comes in response to the request for information from the Department of Transport in their letter of 11 November 2024 to Natural England [NE], Chiltern Conservation Board [CCB] and All Interested Parties. We are an Interested Party.

I write for the St Paul's Walden Bury Estate Co. which owns woodlands and farms in St Paul's Walden and neighbouring parishes. I and my family live at which is of national significance and is open to the public.

We draw your attention to the harm caused by aircraft noise to recreational and rural areas adjacent to the airport on the north - northeast side. This area provides a lung for the urban centres bounded by the towns of Luton, Harpenden, St Albans, Welwyn Garden City, Stevenage and Hitchin. The arguments presented by NE and CCB apply similarly to areas near the airport further east, but outside the Chilterns AONB.

This area includes unspoilt rural countryside, woodlands, parks and gardens enjoyed by the nearby urban populations. Considerable care is taken to conserve the beauty of this area, which is part of the Chilterns in that it contains the shanks leading up to the crest of the Chilterns. The flight paths from Luton Airport follow numerous much walked rural paths, including sections of the Chiltern Way Extension.

However, our particular concern is the affect on our Grade 1 listed garden, open to the public. Our tradition of performing Shakespeare plays and classical music concerts in the garden is threatened by aircraft noise, which present severe interruptions.

We take particular exception to the point 3.5.1 in the letter from Luton Rising of 8 November 2024, in which it asserts:

"The impacts are also transient in nature so the area of land potentially impacted is not an appropriate comparator when considered against fixed source impacts."

Aircraft noise destroys the tranquillity that walkers and visitors seek, has an adverse affect on wild life, and prevents the staging of outdoor events and filming.

Please can you consider:

- What value should be put on environmental impact. The response of Luton Rising to this issue considers the CCB but ignores the area further east.
- What compensation should be offered to those affected
- How such compensation will be distributed to the communities involved

Yours faithfully

Simon Bowes Lyon