

**From:** [REDACTED]  
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To whom it may concern,

I am writing about aspects of the Planning Inspectorate's proposed hearings and agendas in relation to the Gatwick Airport Development Consent Order application for a new runway. In particular, it has come to my attention that the time frame for the hearings is very narrow and that this could have a detrimental impact on the local community's ability to engage fully. I know that residents' group CAGNE have made representations in support of allowing more time between hearings in order that they have the fullest possible opportunity to respond. This seems a reasonable request and I hope the Inspectorate will co-operate.

I also back calls by the resident and communities affected for the focus and number of hearings to be widened. This would allow for proper consideration of the application's compliance with Government's policy on [making best use of existing runways](#), as well as the impacts on climate change, air pollution, flooding and sewage risks, and the implications for workforce, affordable housing, healthcare and amenities. Extending and expanding the hearings would complement the dedicated hearings on aviation noise and surface transport that are already planned.

Whilst the PINS will be accustomed to ensuring maximum objectivity, local people are, understandably, concerned about the risk of their voices being drowned out by the resources which Gatwick Airport has at its disposal. I'd therefore encourage you to review the number of site visits being undertaken by the Inspectorate to the sites of impact and development, with a view to ensuring they are sufficiently far-reaching to allow comprehensive evaluation of the full impact of this new runway application. Further, I would politely request that an invitation be extended to CAGNE representatives so they may be present during the site visit planned for March 7<sup>th</sup>.

This application has far-reaching consequences, and I am sure you will agree that it's vital that the process is as thorough and accessible as possible to all those with a stake in the decision. With thanks for your time and co-operation.

Yours sincerely, Caroline

Caroline Lucas MP  
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