

As residents of Penshurst for the past 44 years, it is quite obvious how much this beautiful AONB has been blighted over the years by the ever increasing volume of air traffic caused by Gatwick Airport and the constant noise pollution. After a holiday staying with family 20 miles east of Edinburgh and the peace from no aeroplanes was so relaxing (just as we enjoyed the absence of aircraft noise during the Covid shut-down although we knew that could not continue long-term). It did highlight how bad things now are here.

Gatwick Airport's application to convert the emergency runway into a full-time second runway fills us with horror at the prospect of even more air traffic with its attendant noise pollution, air pollution and pressure on the infrastructure in the surrounding areas. We are already bombarded with aircraft during the day and disturbing our sleep at night. Aeroplanes still come in very low over us instead of at higher altitude and flying planes smoothly in descent. Government is not enforcing these rules. We often feel that we could wave to the passengers as they come by.

Despite Government's promises to put in place stronger and clearer controls it is clear that action is not being taken. It's strange how despite the Government's wanting to reduce factors causing "climate change" and plugging its Net Zero credentials on the one hand, it is not doing so if it allows further pollution in various forms in permitting Gatwick Airport to expand and the inevitable aviation pollution.

We object very strongly to this application.