

I'm Sally Williams from Longwood Business Support. Longwood Business Support offers a broad range of Accounting, Recruitment & HR services and solutions to start-ups & SME businesses. We provide tailored business support to clients in a flexible manner. We offer I have lived in Crawley all of my life and have worked in the area for over 40 years.

Much of my working life has been within the travel industry connected with Gatwick Airport. I actually met my husband whilst working at Gatwick!

I worked for Virgin Atlantic in Crawley for 22 years and was made redundant during Covid. I saw the devastating impact that the closure of Gatwick had on Crawley and strongly believe that without Gatwick, our town would be very different .

Gatwick airport is the seedbed to our town providing fantastic career opportunities to local people which, in turn feeds into our local economy. Gatwick also provides a community of diverse people and talent which, in turn supports our business when providing various support services including recruitment.

I see the benefits from utilising the existing Northern Runway as providing further economic stability but also giving us access to new markets and clients.

Personally, I feel that the journey to London Heathrow to catch flights, for anyone from the Southeast, is highly stressful and long at times due to the increasingly heavy traffic on the M25. This also impacts on Sustainability. With Gatwick's expansion with the Northern Runway, it could lead to a greater route network and offering to people from this (and surrounding) regions which would negate the need to drive to Heathrow.

Gatwick is a great network with so much opportunity and my only concern would be potential traffic/parking problems within the Crawley area due to the increase of passengers and how Gatwick would tackle this.

I strongly support this proposal.