

Interested party reference 20046930

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Clare Finn [REDACTED], mother and grandmother, live in Hove, Retired Solicitor.

30 years ago I was living with my husband and young sons in leafy Twickenham, seven and a half miles from Heathrow airport. We heard of the plans to build a 5<sup>th</sup> terminal at Heathrow, and the protestations that an additional runway was not part of the plans. Planes were passing over our house every 40 seconds in the peak season, starting at 4.30 am and continuing beyond nightfall, shaking windows and making conversation and enjoyment of our garden and outside spaces impossible. The pollution from aviation fuel was visible and the stench irritated my nose. We moved to Hove to raise our family in cleaner air.

30 years ago I didn't understand the harm caused by burning oil, gas and coal. CO<sub>2</sub>. Post the 2015 Paris agreement, we committed to avoid more damage to our planet to avert climate catastrophe. Building Heathrow Mark 2, 30 miles from the original and baddest polluter, is not it. We cannot afford it.

This small area of South east England comprising London and all its airports does not want the accolade of home of the largest polluters on the planet.

Here we are the day after the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UK government declaring a climate emergency, examining a plan for a massive building project and increase of 100,000 flights a year from south east England. A plan this year where the planet is 1.5 degrees +. A plan that relies on holiday makers at a time when popular holiday destinations in Europe are restricting tourists to protect their own resources and infrastructure. A plan that relies on oil for planes and vehicle transport. The quadrant of the M25 from Junctions 8 to 15 will be at a standstill, further polluting this area.

I volunteer with Nightstop Sussex, a charity working with young homeless, who stay with us for a few nights. Our guests are often refugees, some fleeing war, some fleeing areas made uninhabitable by climate change, such as extreme heat, fires or floods and societal breakdown caused by oil and gas extraction. Young people are scared for their future. Levels of anxiety in young folk are off the scale. They will suffer the fallout from man made climate catastrophe. A future of crop failures, water shortages, extreme and unpredictable weather events, all happening now in Asia, Africa and south America and coming here too. Our own farmers are predicting crop failures..

Gatwick will say their plans are in line with the Jet Zero strategy, which is based on as yet unproven technology at scale. Nowhere in the world has developed this technology at scale. 50% of UK agricultural land would need to be taken away from food production to be used for production of biomass to reduce the toxicity of aviation fuel. It is a unicorn solution. A myth. In June 2023 The Climate Change Committee Progress Report's key message to parliament: There should be no net airport expansion across the UK.

With love and courage, protect our children and grandchildren's futures, stop the harm and reject this application.