

I am writing to further express my support for the use of the Northern Runway in scheduled operations at Gatwick Airport for the following reasons:

- Economic growth for the region & the country with a contribution of £1bn to the local economy each year.
- Employment opportunities for local people.
- New routes to new destinations for leisure & business. Following Covid, there is less business travel but this is still vital, whether it is to supply & service equipment for export or source goods for import. Furthermore, the capacity will also bring connectivity to the regions of the UK where rail is not an option such as Northern Ireland, the Highlands & Islands of Scotland, The Isle of Man & the Channel Isles.
- Inbound tourism could support more than 28,000 additional jobs across the UK, through a 61% increase in inbound tourism from using the Northern Runway.
- Inward investment & trade deals. The Government has recently signed a number of trade deals & there is no alternative to flying long-haul to those destinations.
- Commitment to Net Zero by 2030 & the recent implementation of the London Gatwick Hydrogen Hub looking towards the widespread adoption of zero-emission hydrogen-powered aircraft, a vision that Airbus aims to realise by 2035.
- Infrastructure & transport investment into local roads to relieve congestion as well as add capacity to the local network & improve local & regional public transport.
- Adds capacity & resilience to the wider London Airport network & will lead to a reduction in the numbers of aircraft that are held in 'stacks' over West Sussex alongside less 'go-rounds' – both of these waste fuel & add to overflying.
- Who else is going to invest £2.2bn in the area from private sources? The Northern Runway project currently is the only infrastructure project from either the public or private sector in the region that will fuel strategic economic growth and future prosperity without costing the public purse.

Thank you