

We do not believe that Gatwick should be given permission to create a second runway for the following reasons:

1. National perspective - if, as a country, we want to be serious about climate change and reducing CO2 emissions then we should be reducing demand for air travel and the supply of available flights to and from our country. It seems ludicrous that we are considering doubling the capacity at Gatwick when the Government of this country has made Greenhouse Gas reduction such a clear target.
2. The Airspace in the south east of our country is already full. Having the UK's two largest airports, Heathrow and Gatwick, within a few miles of each other and then considering doubling capacity at Gatwick will only exacerbate this problem to breaking point.
3. Noise - We live in an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (ANOB) that is already severely blighted by the noise and pollution from Gatwick departures – especially as they refuse to fly within the designated Noise Preferential Routes (NPR's) and away from the ANOB. Doubling aircraft traffic over our area will destroy the unique beauty of this area.
4. Air Quality – Gatwick offers nothing more than to 'monitor' air quality. This is not acceptable; air quality standards must be legally binding in the DCO. Air quality standards are rising, so the DCO should have stringent mandatory targets that must be met.
5. The infrastructure around Gatwick – namely: the roads, rail links, housing etc... was not built to cope with the demands expected from doubling the capacity of Gatwick. This plan makes no assessment of the cost to the local authorities/taxpayer of increasing the capacity of the roads, rails links and additional housing needed.
6. In addition, the Gatwick/Crawley area has one of the lowest unemployment rates in the country. So the people needed to build and operate the proposed additional facilities at Gatwick will need to be brought into the area – again, where is the plan for this and who pays for it?

We do not see a need for this additional runway nationally and we definitely do not want to have our lives blighted further by a doubling of aircraft over the beautiful area where we live.

Paul and Jackie Baker

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