

GACC NEWSLETTER

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The Secretary of State for Transport has today made a decision stating that she is "minded to grant consent" for the development of Gatwick Airport based on an amended plan. Further consultation is now expected with a final decision earmarked for October 2025.

Somewhat of a surprise particularly as on the days running up to the announcement the press and pundits were all forecasting an approval statement.

As you can imagine we've spent a pretty active day with the press and achieved good coverage for our campaign across radio and tv and with the local and national newspapers.

Our Press release went out on the 27th and you can see it [here](#).

For details of the Secretary of State's statement click [here](#).

And for the Planning Inspectors' Report click [here](#) and for the appendices [here](#).

The Planning Inspectorate has recommended against the expansion plan. However the Secretary of State's office have suggested that if Gatwick complies with revised conditions relating to Surface Transport Access and Noise Mitigation they will reconsider the application favourably.

We have scheduled a 'brain storming' session for next Monday 3rd March in Charlwood Parish Hall to discuss the contents of the papers and plan our action. Anyone interested in joining should email us at info@gacc.org.uk to get more details.

We feel there is no need for this or any other airport expansion in the UK. That climate change has been downgraded to just another issue to consider after the Government has indicated its desire to proceed is completely unacceptable. On Wednesday, the Climate Change Committee stated that no additional airport capacity is needed until at least 2035 and then only if Sustainable Aviation Fuels become viable. Since the Gatwick consultation finished, we have passed 1.5C global warming for the past year, and last week the Channel Tunnel announced plans to expand connectivity to Europe. It is time for the government to back trains not planes, and instigate the repeated calls of their independent Climate Change Committee to introduce a plan to manage down demand for flying instead.

In our press statement yesterday we said GACC are putting the Government on notice that should they go ahead with what seems to be their revised plan we will legally challenge what is still a dangerous and irresponsible decision. We are calling out the Government's failure to recognise Gatwick's false economic claims and its plans to fly in the face of climate breakdown. Equally concerning is the government's failure to listen to the evidence of the significant negative impact on local communities in terms of noise, air

pollution, overloading of infrastructure and a general worsening of people's lives.

Fundraiser for Legal Challenges

To meet the legal challenges GACC has launched a fundraising campaign to support these legal challenges.

The link to the campaign is here: <https://www.crowdjustice.com/case/gacc/>

Please donate to the campaign to help us continue to challenge the expansion of Gatwick Airport and the disastrous consequences that expansion would have on local people as well as globally. With your support we can ensure that issues like night flights, noise, air quality, and climate change do not go unnoticed. Commitments and promises dropped will not go unchallenged and we will keep on working to stop Gatwick's unsustainable expansion from becoming a terrible reality.

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Joining GACC: please spread the word

Please encourage your friends, family and neighbours to join GACC and help protect the interests of communities around the airport and under flight paths. Information on how to join is on our website here: <http://www.gacc.org.uk/contact-us.php>.

GACC contact details

Email: info@gacc.org.uk

Website: <http://www.gacc.org.uk>

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