



GATWICK AREA CONSERVATION CAMPAIGN

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The proposed expansion of Gatwick, confirmed today by the airport, is unwelcome, unnecessary and, if approved, would have devastating consequences for the environment, local communities, and people living under flight paths many miles away. The Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign (GACC), with local community groups, is relaunching its 'Gatwick's Big Enough' campaign to fight these proposals.

The plan to grow the airports capacity by between 40% and over 60% over the next fifteen years involves use of new technology on the main runway and re-aligning and widening the existing emergency (or standby) runway to form a second runway.

Despite claiming that it is no longer pursuing an additional full runway Gatwick also wishes to continue to blight residents living to the south of the airport with its demand to safeguard land from any other development.

The use of the emergency runway in conjunction with the main runway would mean more noise, more CO₂ emissions and other climate impacts, more congestion on local infrastructure and poorer air quality. There would be serious health impacts for local communities and those under flight paths and severe effects on a local infrastructure already overburdened as a result of past growth. If it gets its way, Gatwick would be able to grow from 45 million passengers and 280,000 flights in 2018, to 74 million passengers and 390,000 flights over the next 15 years, nearly the size of Heathrow. See the Gatwick press release [here](#).

Chairman of GACC, Peter Barclay, said "There is no need or other case for expansion at Gatwick. GACC and other local community groups have met and unanimously agreed to challenge these proposals as robustly as possible. The world now knows that aviation's growth has climate consequences that it simply can't afford and serious adverse impacts on health through noise and air pollution, This proposal is unnecessary and ill conceived. It must and will be opposed and rejected."

For further information contact :

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Campaigning for a better environment for the whole area around Gatwick

GACC, founded in 1968, has as paid-up members over 50 councils and over 40 community groups. We have built a reputation for sound judgement and reliable information and thus have the support of all local Members of Parliament.