From:

To:

Luton Airport

Subject: London Luton Airport Expansion - Resident Complaint re impact of emissions

Date: 05 September 2024 00:36:56

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I wanted to let my feelings known around the expansion of London Luton Airport.

I can not see how this expansion fits with the requirement of COP to reduce emissions. Even if more sustainable measures are used and new fuels come into play in the next 20 years, the impact of this move will be huge.

The proposals from Luton Rising focus almost entirely on emissions from their ground operations, with a single brief mention of encouraging airlines to improve their emissions. This is totally unacceptable in a time when we need to act now to reduce emissions, not double the amount of polluting aircraft at one airport.

The impact of the increase in traffic getting to the airport also needs to be considered. The infrastructure around the airport is not fit to take the extra road traffic that will inevitably come about with 32m passengers arriving at the airport. The increase in the level of air pollution this will create locally would be enormous. As much as the operators encourage people to take the train, this just will not happen. Luton is not well enough connected with just one line going into the station - this is not connected enough to the full region and so many passengers will arrive by car.

The other consideration is the noise impact on communities. The proposal from Luton Rising focused on the immediate local area, not all communities affected further afield. The CAA has recently amended flight paths into London Luton Airport and this is meaning planes are approaching above previously very quiet rural areas. This is already having a huge impact on quality of life here and if the increase happens planes will be going over these communities every six minutes. The pollution, both noise and air quality, will totally destroy these once peaceful areas. There are campaigns around the consultation period for this flight path change and I believe local MPs are already in discussion on this issue. The final review of the changes will not be completed until after you consider the expansion from a planning perspective, surely the safety and efficacy of this new airspace must be fully considered before your decision is made.

I hope that you will agree that the rise of air traffic through this unprecedented doubling of passengers will be so detrimental to the country's emission targets that you will not give the required planning permission.

We all need to take action now to meet the COP targets and cannot afford to wait for airline technology to improve, this is a long term solution and we need to be taking action now.

Kind regards