

## Climate and Stopping Airport Expansion

The government has 4 tests for any expansion: Growth; Impact on regions; impact on climate emissions; impact on communities including noise & pollution.

### 1 **Responsibility to cut climate emissions** for our children's future.

UK must do even more after Trump withdrew from the Paris Accord which is "the best hope for all humanity" – Ursula von der Leyen. UK cross-party, science-backed climate committee urges NO overall expansion, yet London City expansion has already been approved.

2 **A sustainable future** is ONLY possible by prioritising Social Need and Protecting Nature and the Environment - **which keeps us alive** - as highly as the Economy. This balance must be kept. Growth should focus on Green Jobs.

3 **Aviation is BAD for the economy**. UK citizens spend billions more abroad than visitors to UK. Aviation is the fastest growing source of the climate crisis. People fly from the UK more than from any country – this is irresponsible. One of Keir Starmer's 5 missions is to make Britain a Clean Energy superpower. Every flight burns fossil fuels, so we must reduce overall flights. Emissions from one return flight = all other activities by one person in a year. 48% of emissions at Luton are from traffic, 1% from airport activities, and 51% are from planes in the air. Planes have a harmful, disproportionate effect on our thin, vulnerable upper atmosphere. Offsetting doesn't work [REDACTED]

4 **Evidence** Please see submissions by Luton Friends of the Earth and Ladacan to Luton Airport Inquiry. During Covid the govt loaned Luton £80 million - on condition it reduced reliance on the airport.

Luton is the wrong place for a big airport – many people suffer ill-health from the impacts of pollution in a valley below the airport, and from noise below flightpaths. In 2018-19 Luton became the most polluted town in UK due to doubling from 9 to 18m passengers in 5 years, doubling vehicle journeys.

Luton is the worst airport for night flights. Jobs at Luton Airport are mainly poor, zero-hours contracts, and traffic jam delays affect the local economy.

An important District Park forms a noise and pollution barrier between the airport and homes. This would be lost to a second terminal if expansion were allowed.