



12th December 2024

Rt Hon Rachel Reeves MP Chancellor of the Exchequer HM Treasury 1 Horse Guards Road London SW1A 2HQ

Dear Chancellor of the Exchequer

Re: Support from businesses for London Luton Airport's DCO application

On behalf of the Bedfordshire Chamber of Commerce (BCC) and the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI), we wish to co-submit an Open Letter asking the Government to approve London Luton Airport's DCO application for expansion. The DCO is due for a decision from the Secretary of State for Transport by 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2025.

BCC and LCCI support businesses to grow and prosper in the UK and abroad, representing over 750 businesses in the Bedfordshire area and over 10,000 businesses in London respectively. The contribution of aviation to the local and UK economy is hard to ignore and, as a recent poll by Savanta has highlighted, 83% of London businesses agree that air connectivity is important to London's global competitiveness.

We enclose a copy of the Open Letter, and a list of the businesses who have signed it.

London Luton Airport's expansion proposals will boost UK plc and support the Government's ambitions for national renewal in three significant ways:

- 1. **Driving the biggest local job creation programme in a generation:** Airport expansion offers Luton an unmatched opportunity for new jobs, economic growth and higher living standards.
- 2. **A uniquely sustainable approach:** A unique and ground-breaking initiative called the Green Controlled Growth framework (GCG) introduces legally enforceable maximum limits for the airport's noise, greenhouse gases, air quality and surface access impacts.
- 3. The UK's most socially impactful airport: London Luton Airport is the UK's most socially impactful airport, with over £300 million provided to support important Council front-line services since 1998, together with an additional £180 million for vital voluntary, community and charitable organisations. This is 20 times more per passenger per annum than any other UK airport.

Luton is located at the heart of the Golden Triangle of London, Oxford and Cambridge, a place where growth, community investment and highly-skilled job creation is happening at scale. Approval of London Luton Airport's DCO application will help support the delivery of other major regional





projects, such as the East West Railway line and the proposed Universal Studios park near Bedford. The planned theme park could become one of the highest-attended attractions in the UK and, to handle this number of visitors, Bedford and the surrounding regions must have the critical infrastructure required to support it.

The attached Open Letter was signed by 139 business organisations keen to see Luton Rising's investment brought forward in the airport, and the benefits realised in the local and regional economy.

More recently, Luton has received the news about the proposed Stellantis plant closure, which would involve the potential loss of 1,200 direct jobs and knock-on repercussions within the wider supply chain.

Nothing could alleviate those impacts, or replace the jobs currently at risk; nonetheless, we believe there is now added urgency for decisive action to support economic and employment growth within Luton, the surrounding region, and indeed the wider UK, as set out within the Government's Industrial Strategy.

We urge the Government consider the strong support from the national and local business communities when making a decision.

Kind regards

Justin Richardson
Chief Executive
Bedfordshire Chamber of Commerce

Karim Fatehi-MBE
Chief Executive
London Chamber of Commerce

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Dear Chancellor of the Exchequer

We, the undersigned, call for the Development Consent Order to expand London Luton Airport to be approved.

The development of the airport to handle 32 million passengers per annum (mppa) would deliver significant economic benefits to England and the South East, helping to address the unacceptable levels of deprivation in Luton. As businesses based in the town and across the wider region, we recognise the importance of the airport for our success and that of neighbouring communities.

The expansion of London Luton Airport would create 11,000 new jobs at the airport and in the supply chain across the region, with around 4,800 directly in Luton. This would deliver high-quality, well-paid jobs with salaries on average 34% higher than the national average wage. The proposals would contribute around £1.3 billion in additional GDP across the three counties of Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire and £1.5 billion nationally.

Through its owner Luton Rising, London Luton Airport is the UK's most socially impactful airport, with £300 million provided to support vital front-line services since 1998, together with an additional £180 million for voluntary, community and charitable organisations. This is all on top of the significant supply chain and wider economic investment the airport delivers locally. When the airport thrives, so does Luton and the wider region.

We do not want growth to come at the expense of the environment and climate change, and therefore we fully support Luton Rising's aims to become one of the greenest airports in the UK. The expansion proposals detail how Luton Rising wants rigorous environmental constraints through a unique initiative called the Green Controlled Growth (GCG) Framework. We welcome these proposed sustainability measures which promise to be some of the most far-reaching commitments to minimise environmental impacts ever put forward by a UK airport.

Our aviation industry is at the centre of economic, social, and environmental transition on a world stage. Enabling sustainable airport expansion will help establish the UK as a leader in this space and we strongly believe that the expansion proposals of London Luton Airport can help pave the way.

As local and regional businesses and employers, we believe that London Luton Airport is vital for the economic growth of this region, and we therefore fully support the expansion of our local airport. We would ask you to consider the strong support from businesses when making your decision about the London Luton Airport expansion proposals.

Yours sincerely,



Justin Richardson
Chief Executive
Bedfordshire Chamber of Commerce



Karim Fatehi-MBE
Chief Executive
London Chamber of Commerce

## List of businesses supporting London Luton Airport Expansion Proposals

AAK Investments Itd

Active Luton

Active Support Education Centre Ltd

**ADB Services LTD** 

Advectus Executive Chauffeur

**AIRDAT** 

Airport Retail Enterprises

AiSolve Limited

Al Isra 24 Ltd

Ali Istithmar Ltd

Andrews UK limited

ATEC Security Limited

Avenue Design Luton Itd

**Bagel Factory** 

Barnfield College

Barth Consulting Limited

Bartham Press (Watford) Ltd

Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation

Bedfordshire Chamber of Commerce

Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service

Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes Integrated Care Board

Beechwood Studios Ltd

Benjamin Café Ltd

Biz Virtual Ltd

British School of Aviation

Chaucer Construction Itd

Clarence Properties Ltd

Commercial Transport Training Ltd

Community Interest Luton

Concierge Group Ltd

CYS Security Ltd

DS Medical

East London NHS Foundation Trust

Edmundson Electrical Ltd

Electron Light

**Equality PCN** 

ERD – Edmundson Luton

Ethos Farm

Euroasia Catering supplies Ltd

Europa Plc

Evo Carz Ltd

**FAAC Entrance Solutions Ltd** 

**FCC Environment** 

Federation of Small Businesses

MetalWood

Flame Heating

FRS ventures Limited

Fusion Radiology Ltd

Gas N Elec Ltd

Gentle Hands Care and Services Ltd

**GH LONDON Ground Handling Services** 

Go Cars

GoCruise & Travel with Adam & Rob

Gravitas Cars Ltd

Greenside childcare Ltd

Grocery Hut Group Ltd

Gym 1 Fitness ltd

Hampton by Hilton Luton Airport

Harmony Bathrooms UK Ltd

Hatters Health Network PCN

Hayjess Properties Limited

**HEARD Digital Ltd** 

Heritage Associates

Heritage Funerals Ltd

HOPE

House a Home Ltd

Howden Insurance

Hypergood Ltd T/A Royal Gourmet

i3Simulations Limited

Ikigai

**ILM Services** 

Imagine Software Ltd

Inconstruct Engineering LTD

J&J Transport MK LTD

Jaltek Systems

Jamia Al Akbria trust

John F Hunt Regeneration

Johnson Controls (Security Products - CEM Systems)

Kids Entertainment Zone

Lansdowne Oak Ltd

Loaded Donner Luton Itd

Locked Escape Rooms Ltd

London Chamber of Commerce and Industry

London Luton Airport Operations Limited

LP display

Luton Airport Specialist Cars Ltd

Luton BID Ltd

Luton Foodbank

Luton Neighbourhood Watch

Luton Sixth Form College

Luton Town Football Club

M & S Water Services (Utilities) Limited

MC Group (Luton) Itd

Measurex Consulting Ltd

MK Contractors Ltd

MKI Halls Itd

Music24

Nasir grill house Itd

National Sameday

Not Just Travel

Peabody Trust

Peri Peri Group Ltd

Petrie Gough Ltd t/a PG Group Ltd

**Promptmove Limited** 

R. A. Morgan Electrical Ltd

Regency Developments Itd

Retro Games Ltd

Revoluton Arts

Rise and Go Café

Ryebridge Construction

S & S Printed Limited

Sadie by Best Western Luton

Seb Polar Blinds

Shoal Group

Signs & Graphics

SMM Properties Ltd

SouthEast Affiliates Limited

Spearhead Cars

Stellantis (Luton Plant)

Strawberry Star

Studio Melanix

Stutley Bros Ltd

The Mall Shopping Centre

TimeZoneTeam Ltd

Total IT

Treacle Factory

**TRG Concessions** 

Turkey Zindabad LTD

University of Bedfordshire

Vepcons Limited

VolkerFitzpatrick

Voyager Flight Simulation Ltd

We trade all Ltd

World Foods Distribution Ltd

YK Investments Ltd

Zestec

1Eid Luton

2020 Developments (Luton) Ltd

7PlusTravel