

The Rt Hon Louise Haigh MP
Secretary of State
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

28th November 2024

Dear Secretary of State

Following the Examining Authorities recommendation for London Gatwick's Northern Runway planning application, we are writing on behalf of 55 business organisations, representing over 63,000 members, to urge you to support this application.

As one of the world's busiest airports, London Gatwick is a vital piece of our national infrastructure. The airport provides investment and commercial opportunities beyond the geography of London and the South East, as demonstrated by the organisations represented in this letter. We represent businesses across the Nations of the UK, from multinationals to start-ups employing thousands of workers and generating £billions for the UK economy.

The ambitions of the business organisations listed below strongly align with the pledges of the Labour manifesto, particularly the key promise of economic stability and working with business to boost growth everywhere. We believe that £1billion a year promised by the Northern Runway and the opportunities for the UK will strengthen its position globally. In addition, the approval of this planning application will deliver:

- £2bn+ of private sector investment in the South East region
- New global and regional connections
- New runway capacity and improved economic resilience
- A significant boost the economy by helping support new jobs, tourism and trade
- 14,000 new jobs
- The opportunity to drive wider UK growth, showcasing the transformative power of well-considered infrastructure investments

We are also cognizant of the Labour manifesto's commitment to sustainability and achieving net zero targets. We believe that this planning application aligns deliverable infrastructure expansion with environmental goals. By making use of existing, underutilised facilities and supporting sustainable aviation practices, London Gatwick is leading the way for the future of aviation.

In 2023 we wrote to your predecessor as a coalition of 52 business groups. Our letter represented 55,000 businesses who benefit from the Gatwick supply chain, the millions of tourists who fly into the airport each year and the diverse economic clusters that have flourished. Today, this number has grown to 55 organisations. This shows the need for investment and support for the business community, from large multinationals to local SMEs, has significantly grown in the last 12 months alone.

For the future prosperity of UK businesses, we urge you to support this planning application.

Yours sincerely

Brett North
Chairman

cc:

Rt Hon Rachel Reeves MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer
Rt Hon Jonathan Reynolds MP Secretary of State for Business and Trade
Stewart Wingate, Chief Executive, Gatwick Airport Ltd



Andrew Swayne
Chairman
Adur & Worthing Business
Partnership



Christina Ewbank
The Alliance of Chambers of
East Sussex



Darren Buss
Chairman
Battle & District Chamber of
Commerce



Howard Martin
President
Bexhill Chamber of Commerce

**Brighton & Hove
Destination Experience
Group**

Gavin Stewart
Chairman



Dean Orgill
Chairman
Brighton & Hove Economic
Partnership



Anne Ackord
President
Brighton & Hove Tourism
Alliance



Gavin Stewart
Executive Chair
Brighton BID



Steve Parker
Director General
British International Freight
Association



Richard Cox,
Chief Executive Officer
Burgess Hill Business Park
Association



John Dickie
Chief Executive
Business LDN / London First



Anneka Hendrick
Regional Director for London
and the South East
CBI



Paul Rolfe
Chairman
Chichester Chamber of
Commerce & Industry



Rosemary French
Chairman
Cranleigh Chamber of
Commerce



Wendy Bell
Chief Executive
Crawley Town Centre BID



Louise Sinclair
Chairman
Crowborough & District
Chamber of Commerce



Richard Plant
Chairman
Develop Croydon



Christina Ewbank
Chief Executive
Eastbourne Chamber of
Commerce



Grahame Russell
Chairman
East Grinstead Business
Association



Michael Lassman
Regional Chair
FSB London



Ian Ross
Regional Chair
FSB Southeast



Sally Brown
General Manager
Gatwick Diamond Business



Brett North
Chairman
Gatwick Diamond Initiative



Alex Mee
Chairman
Gatwick Hotels Association

Gatwick Small Hotels Group



Stephen Rouxel
President
Guernsey Chamber of Commerce



Bharat Lukka
Governor
Gurjar Hindu Union



Clive Soper
Vice Chairman
Hailsham & District Chamber of Commerce



Sean Dennis
Director
Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce



Richard Williams
President
Heathfield Chamber of Commerce



Mike Humphrey
President
Horley Chamber of Commerce



Colin Marr
Chief Executive
Inverness Chamber of Commerce



Michele Augousti
Chairman
IOD Sussex



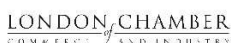
Rebecca George
Chief Executive
Isle of Man Chamber of Commerce



Tudor Price
Chief Executive
Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce



Clare Crouch
President
Lewes Chamber of Commerce



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Karim Fatehi MBE
Chief Executive
London Chamber of Commerce & Industry



Mike Gregory
Director
Mole Valley Chamber



Mike Shorer
President
Newhaven Chamber



Suzanne Wylie
Chief Executive
Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce & Industry



Jace Tyrrell
Chief Executive
Opportunity London



Jo Stevens
Managing Director
Oxford Innovation Space



Paula Gander
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Peacehaven Chamber of
Commerce



Spencer Copping
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Reigate Business Guild



Jane Brook
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Louise Punter
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Tony Hedger
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