

Heidi Alexander
Secretary of State
for Transport.



10th March 2025.

Dear Secretary of State.

Your approach to defer the decision to approve the operation of a second runway at Gatwick subject to certain conditions being met, resulted in Gatwick's C.E.O Mr Wingate stating that he cannot give an assurance as to the number of airport passengers that will use public transport.

Passengers however, ^{are} only one part of the equation as there is no small matter of how the 14,000 extra staff that Gatwick requires or the thousands of extra staff that existing or new businesses will require to service Gatwick's needs will get to and from work, and of course one must not forget that a second runway will generate increased freight movements on our fragile roads.

Since Heathrow was chosen over Gatwick by the Airport Commission things have changed significantly on roads feeding into and surrounding Gatwick, due to the thousands of new homes that have been built both locally and further afield. By 2030 thousands more homes will have been built often in areas of poor or non-existent public transport. Not that Gatwick's dedicated public transport systems are overly reliable, particularly the train service.

If im not mistaken your department will be fully aware of the issues I have raised which makes my letter relevant when set against the background of the governments stated aims, to grow the economy and build 1.5 million homes.

Given that both aims are important there needs to be a high degree of certainty that if Gatwick is given the go ahead that the road network will be able to cope or it will be a disaster in the making.

Other issues that concern me that an enlarged Gatwick will impact upon are.

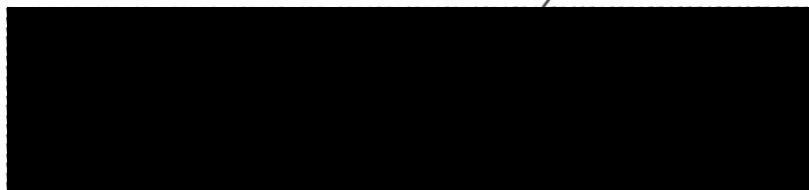
- Surrey and Sussex are water stressed areas. Several villages in Sussex have been without water for days on end in 2024.
- Noise for more than ten years now ~~this~~ has been getting worse.
- Some mornings you can open the front door and the smell of aviation fuel is sickening.
- Organophosphates, I have raised this issue at public meetings and with Reigate and Banstead Borough Council.
- Lack of, or inadequate infrastructure to support existing needs.

I can recall seeing the then Queen arriving at Gatwick in 1958 for its official opening and have always supported

its existence inspite of the noise and pollution it creates.

However even the memory of our beautiful Queen Elizabeth cannot bring me to accept that Gatwick's ambition overrides the needs of the communities around Gatwick.

Yours sincerely



c/o Mr Chris Coghlan M.P.