

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Gatwick Airport](#)  
**Subject:** Second Runway at Gatwick Airport  
**Date:** 03 June 2025 12:36:41

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Interested Party Reference number: 20044929

Dear Sirs

I should like to comment on the Secretary of State's (SoS) letter on the application for a second runway at Gatwick Airport.

There should be no new runway at Gatwick Airport as Gatwick has not provided a strong enough case for why there is a 'need' for a new runway. The SoS should take the expert Planning Inspectorate's recommendation **not** to support a new runway.

It is unacceptable that Gatwick calls for approval of a new runway before 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025. Due process must be adhered to.

The impact of noise must be fully re-examined in view of Gatwick claiming that the robust investigations by the Planning Inspectorate did not understand Gatwick's submissions. Throughout the hearings, CAGNE has detailed the inconsistencies of Gatwick's submissions. Gatwick is now proposing new noise criteria, with a consultation of interested parties as the alternative. This would not be legally binding and seriously questions the merit of the planning process, as it will not have been independently examined with findings produced for all to examine before any planning permission is given for a new runway.

Any noise restrictions should be continuous throughout the year for arrivals and departures, not just for the summer months.

Gatwick consultations tend to favour the airport over residents, and a simple airport consultation post 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025 does not override PINS' rigorous examinations of the poor data responses provided by the airport during the hearings.

Gatwick seems to wish to dismiss tranquillity as 'lack of ambient noise', using a flawed Noise Management Board report produced by the Gatwick noise expert. The report was very narrow in its investigation, so was not accepted by residents as factual during the NMB. CAGNE do not believe that ground and plant noise has been fully examined, so this must be re-examined, along with noise from aircraft in flight. It is not sufficient to acknowledge the noise without robust criteria of how it will be addressed, allowing for restrictions should the noise be an issue – there seems to be no baseline for the noise created.

CAGNE do not accept Gatwick's argument on a reduction of mitigation and an 'agreement on case by case' basis, as this offers residents no assurances of what they will receive or what Gatwick feels obliged to provide. Residents should be assured of a robust DCO agreement that is legally binding, that can be appealed against should a resident feel inadequately compensated by Gatwick for increase in noise and devaluation of home.

I do not understand how the economic projection can be reached without the modernisation of airspace, so this must be included in the SoS decision. The compensation being offered by Gatwick does not account for changes to flight paths, and no compensation is being offered for greater concentration of flights, or new flight paths over new communities.

The lack of surface access to the airport has always been a major problem for Gatwick as detailed in the Heathrow vs Gatwick Airport Commission report submissions for a new SE runway in 2014.

The proposed increase in the drop-off fee to £7 simply pushes the congestion back to roads and stations that have not had the £200m investment of taxpayer's money that Gatwick station has had. It also firmly places the bill with local authorities of a decline in air quality.

Improvements to the roads and public transport should be paid for by Gatwick, not the taxpayer. Legal agreements must be in place before any new runway is approved. The 54% of airport users travelling by public transport must be legally binding, as proposed by SoS in restrictions of 27<sup>th</sup> February. With congested residential roads comes a decline in air quality, adding to the cost to residents, the NHS, and the public purse.

I note that the highways will be expected by Gatwick to carry up to 350,000 tonnes of cargo by 2047, without significant investment. The offer of £10m for roads is inadequate. The Brighton Railway Line is receiving a £900m investment by Network Rail but, if Gatwick are serious about placing over 32m extra passengers on the line, they should be contributing a large proportion of this sum.

As detailed throughout the PINS examination, Gatwick is relying on third parties to provide the surface access to the airport, yet they are not now obliged to meet the cost, or the restriction offered by your department, which would seem a reasonable restriction if they truly believed the sustainable surface transport plans that Gatwick submitted.

The offer of £320,000 by Gatwick is pitiful as it does not improve Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (ANOB), as some areas of them are expected to withstand a 20% increase in aircraft movements over heritage sites and rural areas designated as AONB. An £80,000 donation for the South Downs National Park Dark Skies Reserve is simply unacceptable, due to Gatwick contributing to a major loss of dark skies, with light pollution that can be seen for miles as well as overhead. Sleep deprivation is suffered by residents, especially in the summer months (peak time for Gatwick) with 11,200 flights between 11.30pm and 6am.

Gatwick's offer of an agreement not to use the northern runway at night does not stop this new runway from being used during the 'shoulder' periods of 10-11.30pm and 6am onwards, when sleep is being sought (timing known to carry health risks). It must be noted that the main runway will have to accommodate all arrivals from departures on two runways, which includes at night. I therefore ask for a night ban for both runways.

Gatwick argues that climate change has been overcounted, as the carbon emissions should be counted only from the 'project'. Surely the emissions from both runways must be accounted for, as with the construction and road transport. All planes that depart from the new runway will

arrive on the main runway. Gatwick does not account for incineration of waste emissions, or for non-CO2 gases.

The SOS should insist on a carbon cap to restrict growth if emissions are not reduced.

Yours faithfully

Dr B C Hutt