

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Gatwick Airport](#)
Subject: Interested Party Reference 20041511 Objection to Gatwick expansion
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20041511

I am wholly **opposed** to Gatwick expansion. Gatwick's responses to the SoS make no difference. An increase in air traffic and the associated road traffic will bring enormous damage to Sussex, Surrey and Kent. The Planning Inspectorate was correct to reject Gatwick's plans as they stood and it is disingenuous of the government to try and sidestep so many serious issues with the SoS declaring herself to be 'mindful'.

Aircraft noise and road traffic in and around Gatwick are already too much with some areas seriously blighted by aircraft noise. Proposed airspace modernisation could make matters even worse by concentrating flight paths and creating new ones, but this has not been taken into consideration by Gatwick. No thought is given to the topography of surroundings where noise is worse on higher ground (around 600ft above sea level in Ashdown Forest area). No thought given to old and historic houses which are difficult to double glaze. These old houses often have large central chimneys which amplify noise from aircraft through the house. Noise should be reduced overall and there is nothing that Gatwick has proposed that will have this effect. The simple equation is that more aircraft equals more noise, whatever Gatwick would like the government to believe.

Noise is a problem all year round a long way away from the airport. Night flights bring sleep disturbance and health issues and there should be a complete ban on night flights. The population affected by night flights has increased as far more people now live in the area due to a large amount of house building, than when the night flight quotas were devised.

The sensitive Ashdown Forest SSSI is badly affected day and night with current numbers of flights and to double this would be devastating. Gatwick does not spare the Ashdown Forest from noise and nothing in its new proposals will protect it in the future. Also, I do not believe that the noise monitors are in places that truly reflect the impact of noise all over the Ashdown Forest and on the villages in and around it during a Westerly operation. More Gatwick bound road traffic across the forest is also damaging to the sensitive, protected nature of the forest.

In summary, Gatwick's latest response does nothing to make their plans for almost doubling the size of the airport any more acceptable than before. There is nothing in the plans to manage the increase in traffic in the all the rat runs far and wide that lead to the airport and the problems in blighted villages will only get worse with more Gatwick associated road traffic. East/West connectivity to Gatwick by public transport is very poor and the North/South motorway and railway are already overcrowded. There is nothing in the latest plans that will reduce the impact of aircraft noise in any way, which is bad enough as it is. An expanded Gatwick would be devastating for the surrounding area. Gatwick's latest suggestions do not address the problems it will cause in an honest or believable way and everything should be done to prevent this travesty happening.

If we are to try to control climate change that we should all be flying less rather than more. The government should be 'mindful' of our changing climate and be 'mindful' to protect our planet and refuse Gatwick's application.

Caroline Tayler