

From: [East Grinstead Business Association](#)
To: [Gatwick Airport](#)
Subject: Gatwick Airport: northern runway
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Ref: Application by Gatwick Airport Limited Seeking Development Consent for the Proposed Gatwick Airport Northern Runway Project (Ref: TR020005)

Response on behalf of the East Grinstead Business Association (EGBA)
EGBA represents around 100 businesses operating in East Grinstead and the surrounding area.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Gatwick Airport Limited's (GAL's) response to the additional conditions proposed by the Secretary of State for Transport.

As outlined in EGBA's original response to the planned expansion, we recognise the economic benefits this will bring to the wider region, and as a business organisation we welcome the £2.2bn investment being made, but with every effort made to minimise additional environmental and noise impacts for residents, and for wildlife/biodiversity, in the district and nearby protected habitats (Ashdown Forest, High Weald, South Downs, Surrey Hills).

It seems sensible that GAL has proposed additional traffic tests ahead of dual runway operations commencing. It seems unreasonable to expect GAL to conform to pre-conditions over which they have little or no control (namely the public transport - rail and bus links - and related use thereof). Although these are obviously key to the successful operation of a major transport hub and international airport.

From the perspective of East Grinstead there would need to be improvements to all transport and highway links from our area to the whole Gatwick Economic Zone, particularly to the already heavily congested and poorly maintained road network. Active Travel (safe pedestrian and cycle routes, and secure bike storage) options - particularly relevant for those working at GAL and associated businesses, offices, hospitality and potentially construction sites - should also be prioritised in an effort to mitigate the increased road traffic impacts.

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