

**Block E Dukes Court
Duke Street
Woking
GU21 5BH
9th June 2025**

FAO: Planning Inspectorate ref London Gatwick Northern Runway

Surrey Chambers of Commerce welcomed the Secretary of State for Transport's letter of 27th February stating she is "minded to grant consent" for the Northern Runway planning application. As an organisation that represents the business community across Surrey, I am writing to share our views on London Gatwick's response to the Secretary of State on the Northern Runway planning application. We feel that London Gatwick has responded constructively to the recommendations and has proposed a solution that is both pragmatic and, importantly, investable. The project represents a £2.2billion investment, fully funded by London Gatwick's shareholders and it is essential that any planning conditions enable the airport to make full use of the Northern Runway. We support the airport's amended proposals that will allow London Gatwick to grow sustainably and meet passenger demand, while addressing the matters raised by the Secretary of State in her letter, including noise and environmental impacts.

In particular, we support the proposed additional traffic tests ahead of dual runway operations beginning. These are designed to avoid traffic congestion by limiting airport related cars on the road until highway improvements are built. This is proposed as an alternative to the Secretary of State's suggested test of achieving a specific level of public transport use before dual runway operations. The test will achieve the same result but using means which are within the airport's control. This will give the airport the confidence to invest in this critical project whilst also giving the Secretary of State confidence that any unforeseen highway impacts will be avoided.

The Northern Runway plans will generate significant economic benefits in Surrey and create good quality jobs for Surrey residents. They will also broaden opportunities for exporting activities, which we all want to see for the benefit of the UK economy. For these reasons, we look forward to the Secretary of State granting full consent later this year.

Yours sincerely,



Louise Punter

CEO-Surrey Chambers of Commerce