

## Written Statement for Bristol Airport Planning Appeal Inspectors 11<sup>th</sup> August 2021

I am emotional as I write this, I am the district councillor for Backwell, adjacent to the airport. I have been voted in to raise the alarm and show leadership on Social Justice and the Climate Emergency. I read the evidence and to me the environmental costs of the expansion of Bristol Airport outweigh the economic benefits. I voted that way and will now trust in the Council's professional team to represent our position in this inquiry.

The world has changed since we took that vote in February 2020. However, the facts around impacts from noise have not, the damage car journeys and congestions remain significant, my parents live on the others side of the A38 where the airport is situated so I travel that way regularly. I also grew up in the area. It is being shaped by the congestion caused by the airport. It is a rural community and that doesn't mean it should be sacrificed, residents of Backwell ward live adjacent to the airport, more flights would mean more sleepless nights and more health impacts as a consequence.

I'm worried that democracy will not be upheld. I am scared that looking in the eyes of my children I cannot tell them that decision makers know about climate change and made the right decision.

I am trusting in the professionals representing the North Somerset Council to bring all the evidence that confirmed I and the others on the Planning Committee provided robust reasons to refuse this expansion.

Yours sincerely

Councillor Bridget Petty for Backwell, North Somerset

Green Party Councillor

Member of Planning and Regulations Committee in 2020

Executive Member for the Climate Emergency and Engagement