

My name is Astrid Vaught, I'm ten years old and I live in Bristol. I am here today to talk about our airport. As soon as I heard that it was possible to say my views on the airport expansion publicly I was raring to go. The reason is, I am worried that Bristol Airport are putting profit before our planet. Climate change isn't a fantasy. We see effects of it everyday, whether it's on the news far away or unfolding beneath our eyes.

You've probably all heard on the news that extreme weather events have increased by five-fold in the last fifty years. But the problem is adults don't seem to be doing anything about it. In fact some are doing more harm to the planet than good, so what are we doing even thinking about a huge expansion to the airport of a tiny city, it's ridiculous. Except it isn't just ridiculous it's terrifying. When

I'm an adult, my generation is to clear up all this mess the existing adults of today will have created.

And why even travel when most of Bristol Airport's holiday destinations are suffering natural disasters. For example: Greece, France, Spain, Italy, Turkey and the USA are suffering from wildfires, lots of North America has had a heat dome and Germany has had catastrophic floods.

With more passengers also comes more traffic and more pollution. So if there are more cars at the airport that means more parking spaces. But less than 0.1% of the current spaces at Bristol Airport are plug-ins for electric cars and at least another 3000 spaces would be added in. Don't forget this isn't being built on some magic freshly-laid tarmac land, it's green belt land, tons of luxurious fields. What's more, pollution levels in Bristol are already exceeding UK

government limits, so it really doesn't make sense to have a bigger airport.

The airport states the expansion will "aim" to be carbon neutral by 2030, but that doesn't include any of the air or road traffic to and from the airport. And they know, Bristol Airport know that what they're saying is absolute nonsense, they just want to make more money.

People often say that we are to see zero emission aeroplanes in the future and the government actually put a date on that saying that it was 2035 when there isn't even a prototype for them yet. Show me your electric aeroplanes then I might think about this expansion of yours.

I would love to travel the world in a plane free of emissions and I hope that one day my dream can be fulfilled. I love

flying and think that it's amazing it's possible but now have told my parents I will boycott it because I have realised it is bad for the planet. The best thing we can do for the planet right now is to just not do anymore.

I know this isn't my decision to make but for the people whose it is: before you go to bed tonight just think about your duty to protect the futures of all the children in the world so that we can live our lives safely without having to worry from one day to the next whether a natural disaster will kill us or our families or if we'll have enough food. And if you do turn this down, you could change the course of history. Other bigger airports may think twice about their expansions. Which side do you want to be on: Planet or profit?