

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Joanna Vincent](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Luton Airport Inquiry Update [GATELEY-GHAM.FID70474]  
**Date:** 19 August 2022 16:40:53  
**Attachments:** [REDACTED]

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Dear Joanna,

I realise this is a little late in the day but please see below my comments on the latest proposals from Luton Airport to increase passenger throughput from 18mppa to 19mppa

**Name:** Michael Reddington

**Address:** [REDACTED]

**Telephone Number:** [REDACTED]

**Position:** I OBJECT to the proposals

I have already objected in some detail to previous proposals by London Luton Airport Operations Limited (LLAOL) to increase throughput at Luton Airport. This specific objection relates to the increase from 18mppa to 19mppa .

These latest 2022 proposals simply repeat previous predictions but slip them by a couple of years to reflect the impact of Covid-19. The proposals again repeat assumptions about the improvement in aircraft fleet leading to quieter, larger craft, but LLAOL has no control over fleet composition.

We are currently living in a world that is allegedly under threat from a Climate Crisis, with governments signing up to a Net Zero policy, yet LLAOL is committing to an allegedly 'negligible' yet concrete increase.

More residents that ever will be subject to night-time and day-time noise, there will be more traffic pollution in the AM and PM rush hours (4%) , and the proposals state that the Luton Borough Council (LBC) plan to be Carbon Neutral by 2040 is only an 'aim', not a 'Policy', i.e. ignore it.

Instead of an expected steady decline in impacts (noise, air quality, health traffic etc.) there will be an increase. However the proposals state that these will be negligible (with the exception of Health, impacts which will be of which will of 'moderate significance' !.) If the issues were not so serious this would be a laughing matter.

There is no mention of the cost of living crisis either. Luton Airport is a low-cost carrier hub. The doyen of low-cost carriers, Ryanair's Michael O'Leary, has recently stated that the era of dirt-cheap flights has ended. Taken together with the cost of living crisis what modelling have LLAOL carried out to justify the increase in passenger numbers ?

Finally, there is the financial impact, which Luton Borough Council (LBC) never widely discuss.

LBC run Luton Rising, and hence LLAOL, like a personal fiefdom. Proposals appear to be rubber-stamped by LBC without regard to the wider issues or without the level of scrutiny that should apply to such costly undertakings. In achieving 18mppa by 2019 instead of by 2028, LLAOL could service the transportation of passengers from the airport to Luton Parkway Station using 'bendy' buses provided free by Thameslink.. Somehow, over that period, Luton Rising have managed to spend AT LEAST £230 million on the DART railway - which by the way is not yet in service.. This was again rubber-stamped by LBC - with no apparent published justification, business case or competitive tendering. Luton

Rising now intend (Luton News, 10th August 2022) to hive off the Dart to an operator ('Dart Co') but there are no details of how this is to be done.

Luton Rising also intend to put forward - once again - proposals to increase passenger throughput to 42mppa. (Sunday Times August 7th 2022). This proposal is expected to cost some £47million.

LBC have run up a debt mountain in the past few years, totalling HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF POUNDS, much of which has gone in the direction of LLAOL in the form of high-interest loans. There are no published plans to repay this capital. so the debt risk lies with the people of Luton. The jobs which were supposed to be created by their investments have not materialised.

In summary LBC and their subsidiary Luton Rising, and LLAOL, cannot be trusted. They should not be allowed to increase passenger numbers and must be made to abide by the original agreed conditions. ALL of their future proposals must be the subject of independent scrutiny by the SoS.

Regards,

Michael Reddington



On Thu, 28 Jul 2022 at 16:34, Joanna Vincent <[Joanna.Vincent@gateleyhamer.com](mailto:Joanna.Vincent@gateleyhamer.com)> wrote:

Dear All

Please find attached and Addendum to the Pre-Inquiry Meeting Note issued by the Inspectors.

[Luton Airport Public Inquiry](#)

Kind regards

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