

From: 
To: [Joanna Vincent](#)
Subject: Comments for Luton Airport Public Inquiry
Date: 26 July 2022 16:12:26

Dear Joanna

I have received a letter (LPA Ref: 210/00031/VARCON; PINS Ref: APP/B0230/V/22/3296455) regarding the addendums to the Luton Airport Environmental Statement.

As an affected resident, I would like to add my comments to the record, and the letter asks for these to be directed to you.

My first comment regards the accessibility of information for public/non-specialist reading. The addendum document is technical and quite difficult for a non-specialist member of the public to fully comprehend. There are quite significant implications to the expansion of the airport passenger and flight numbers outlined in the proposals, yet these are buried in a way that, I would imagine, may deter members of the public and prevent a general awareness of how the proposals will affect them. In the long process of the expansion proposals, there has been very little clear information for the public, and this is something I think should be considered. Where there has been a lack of public engagement with the planning proposals, I would say it has more to do with this than apathy or silent consent to the proposals (based on conversations with neighbours and others within the community).

My second comment is more specifically about the increase over time to the night time flight numbers and noise that affect my residence in Stevenage. In the nine years I have lived here, loud night flights have increased to the point where it is very difficult to sleep. I will not repeat comments that I have submitted in previous stages of the planning process (the letter asks for us not to) about this, but I would want to add that the addendum notes the 'moderate significance' of impact to residence for flight noise at night. This 'moderate' impact is huge to those of us affected by the flight noise. It is currently unbearable and any increase will have further negative effects on health due to sleep disturbance and deprivation. The document mentions that, for some residents, noise insulation could be available, yet this is not something that would be available where I live in Stevenage despite being an area heavily affected by night-time noise. The document also acknowledges that any noise insulation would not offer help where windows are open, and yet, with climate change making temperatures higher, sleeping without windows open is not an option. In this case, what is the point of offering noise insulation if it is not also being paired with other ways of cooling a house without requiring windows to be open? For Luton Airport to be taking 'moderate significance' of night-time noise disturbance seriously, I would hope that they would expand the areas that they offer noise insulation to, as well as offering solutions to the problem of windows currently needing to be open at night.

I would hope that the concerns from residents who have to live with the noise pollution from the airport would be taken into consideration. A difference of 1 or 2 decibels in a table may look like a small change, but on top of considerable noise to begin with, it can amount to a reduced quality of life and health issues.

Over the years, Luton Airport has not enforced previous guidelines for flights regarding things like delaying deploying landing gear to reduce noise over residential areas, and so it is with scepticism that I read about any mitigation measures that are mentioned in the planning application.

Many thanks for your time.

Yours sincerely,
Sophie MacNeill

