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The Planning Inspectorate

COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

Please note that comments about this case need to be made within the timetable. This can be found in the notification letter sent by the local planning authority or the start date letter. Comments submitted after the deadline may be considered invalid and returned to sender.

Appeal Reference: APP/B0230/V/22/3296455

DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference	APP/B0230/V/22/3296455
Application By	LONDON LUTON AIRPORT OPERATIONS LIMITED (LLAOL)
Site Address	London Luton Airport Airport Way Luton LU2 9LY Grid Ref Easting: 511908 Grid Ref Northing: 220942

SENDER DETAILS

Name	DR DANIEL PHILPS
Address	[redacted]

ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- ☐ Applicant
- ☐ Agent
- ☑ Interested Party / Person
- ☐ Land Owner
- ☐ Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- ☐ Final Comments
- ☐ Proof of Evidence
- ☐ Statement
- ☐ Statement of Common Ground
- ☑ Interested Party/Person Correspondence
- ☐ Other

YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE

Dear Sirs/Madams,

Luton Airport's called-in application to increase passenger numbers to 19 million and to increase its noise footprint limits should be rejected out of hand for 4 important reasons: the Airport cannot be trusted to operate within its planning conditions; the expansion contradicts Luton's stated local plan; pre-COVID noise limits were continually breached, disturbing school age children's sleep on a regular basis (I certainly do not just speak for my own 3 children); the Airport's claimed benefits to the local economy have continually been exaggerated by The Airport.

First, Airport's compliance with regulations and limits cannot be trusted. In the past, noise limits have been set high and continually breached.
Second, the Airports past disregard for their own limits and a relaxing of noise contours alone will be devastating for residents of St Albans, where the housing stock is not designed to have such high levels of noise and residents will continue to be disturbed by noise levels, disrupting daily life and sleep for school age children, something that has been directly linked to psychological well being. If this appeal is not rejected it would have a direct impact on the mental health of children in St Albans and surrounding areas.
Third, noise limits have continually been breached by aircraft taking off or overflying the outskirts of North St Albans early in the mornings and late at night, as well as during the day. The Airport has shown time and again a total disregard for its planning conditions to reward the Airport with more scope for disruption and noise nuisance given their failure to comply with existing conditions is unacceptable.
Fourth, the Airports past claims for increases in jobs and economic benefits have been drastically over exaggerated. These claims cannot credibly cited as a reason for the approval of this appeal. The U.K. has one of the lowest unemployment rates in our history, while employment at the Airport would draw employees away from vital public services in the region, exacerbating the existing job "vacancy crisis", and skills shortage of employees in vital services in Luton. In addition employment at the Airport is boom/bust in nature, something which adds to social upheaval in the area as it did over the COVID crisis. It is an economic curse not a blessing.

There are at least four specific reasons this appeal should be thrown out. The unacceptable nuisance the Airport already causes, the mental health implications, the economic damage caused (far from benefit), and that the Airport cannot be trusted to keep within the rules.

Yours faithfully.

Daniel Philps