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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	MRS BARBARA SQUIRES
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

I am totally against any further expansion of Luton Airport, its expansion of passenger numbers and any increased noise levels!
The current noise level from Luton Airport blights our village of Breachwood Green (we are directly under the flight path). I understand that the Airport has broken its noise footprint limits in 2017, 2018 and 2019 so it is obvious that the Airport owners and the Airport operators have no interest in protecting the quality of life for our local residents, the surrounding villages and the wider community who are badly affected by the noise, congestion and emissions of the Airport.
We are never able to sleep with our windows open and this is especially difficult during very hot weather. It is impossible to carry on a conversation when outdoors when a plane flies over. We just have to stop and wait until it is gone. Flights frequently veer off the accepted flight path taking them far too close to our village school. It has to disrupt the children's learning if they find it difficult to hear what the teacher is discussing. Any further noise level would be terribly disruptive.
The impact of air pollution, light pollution, day and night time noise, traffic congestion and low flying aircraft all contribute to the hardships experienced by our village and North Hertfordshire. Many villagers and the Parish Council have expressed these concerns in writing, phone calls, at Airport consultations, through Ladacan and through our local representative on Airport committees. Departing planes veering off their allocated flight paths also go too close to our well used recreation area and there are far too many aborted landings. Passengers even park along the roads in our village and take a taxi to the Airport. The Airport already allows far more flights then they officially should – I believe it to be 50 more planes per 24 hours. I also understand that the night flights have doubled in the past 5 years.
The current infrastructure in Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire hardly copes with the existing traffic. The traffic from junction 10 to the airport is often bumper to bumper. There is frequently a back log of traffic into the airport itself around the roundabout. Surely, the stop/start of slow vehicles along a road must add to air pollution. Luton is already known for its poor air quality. Further expansion of Luton Airport will certainly increase both of these problems.
I doubt if the new Dart system or the planned improvements to Luton's roads and junctions will ease this congestion problem sufficiently since, I understand, the Government statistics indicate that only 31% of the people, arriving at Luton Airport, use public transport and 51% of the people using Luton Airport arrive by car.. It will take the shuttle buses from the Parkway rail station off the road but the buses from other parts of the country and other airports will still be using the road ways.
Luton Council and Luton Airport's current demand forecast is not in line with current thinking. People are very concerned about climate change and flying contributes considerably toward this with its carbon emissions, pollutants and contrails. Further expansion will help prevent the Government from meeting their desired zero emissions by 2050.
I had hoped that the Airport owners and managers would begin to show evidence of a real commitment to reducing the disastrous effects on the public that already exists. Instead they have put in this new application that has even greater consequences on our environment and the people. The Airport seems to pay lip service to making improvements to the numerous problems mentioned above and this doesn't give me confidence that they won't continue to ride rough shod over the public and the Governments environmental improvements.
Any expansion of Luton Airport and increase in passenger numbers will only exacerbate our existing concerns. Luton Council, the Airport owners and managers should concentrate on improving the existing ill effects that the Airport is causing, honour the 2013 agreements and not consider any further expansion of any kind until they completely fulfill their promises of improved quality of life for those badly affected by the Airport, for the environment itself and to fulfill the Government's policy of balanced growth.
I would refer you to Ladacan's responses to this application which I support.
Yours sincerely,
Mrs. B. Squires