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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	MR CHRISTOPHER BAZALGETTE
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

We (my wife and I) have experienced disruptive noise from aircraft leaving Luton for some years now. We have noted that:

• When the wind is easterly – some 30-40% of the time - the flight path of all aircraft heading for the majority of destinations pass over the populated corridor crossing Stevenage, Knebworth (our location) and Welwyn.
• At peak times aircraft pass over at intervals of a few minutes, and these start at 6am and often continue beyond midnight, disturbing our sleep.
• It also affects our use of our garden and outdoor facilities during the day.

We understand that condition 10 to limit noise, originally set in 2013, has been consistently infringed, and that Luton Airport is now seeking to vary it in order to increase the number of flights. We also understand that the aim is to increase capacity to 32 million passengers per annum, a considerable increase on the current 19ppa, which is already hard to tolerate.
We appreciate that an increase in airport capacity will benefit Luton in terms of employment opportunities. However the negative affects on the surrounding population – chiefly in Hertfordshire – in terms of sleep disturbance, quality of life, and consequent loss of productivity would be far greater, given the size of the population affected.
There has been discussion of potential compensation aimed at house insulation. However this ignores the affect on quality of life in terms of enjoyment of outdoor pursuits, and also the unhealthy need always to have windows shut during the night.
There has been no noticeable reduction in the noise profile of aircraft, as has previously been hinted might be achieved, and the effects of increased air pollution remain the same for each aircraft, and will obviously become worse with expansion.
In summary, we object to the expansion in airport capacity proposed, as it would exacerbate the already overwhelmingly negative affects on the life of the area.