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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 ANDREW ROBSON
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 oppose the plans to increase passenger numbers at London Luton Airport. I previously submitted comments on the Luton Planning Portal and these further comments are in addition to those.

My reasons for opposing the application relate to the increase in aircraft noise, the increase in road traffic and the effects of aircraft emissions on the environment, i.e. increased pollution and impacts on climate change.

I live on the outskirts of Hitchin, just a few miles from the airport. We regularly hear noise from aircraft and sometimes we can smell aviation fuel. Since flights have started to get back to normal after Covid, we have noticed a definite increase in aircraft noise. This application contravenes the Luton Local Plan, and government policy, which require noise to be reduced, not increased, over time.

We are also affected by vehicle traffic to and from Luton, which often travels along a road at the back of our house. The proposals to increase numbers of passengers and flights must lead to further increases in traffic, noise and pollution.

At the UN Climate Change Conference, COP26, in Glasgow last year, the Prime Minister stated: "We have to bridge the gap between where we are and where we need to be if we're going to cut emissions in half by 2030. And we need to pull out all the stops… And there really is no excuse because we know what is at stake here."
(https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-statement-at-cop26-press-confere
nce-10-november-2021)

The proposal to increase the number of flights to and from Luton Airport is totally at odds with what the Prime Minister said at COP26 and with Luton Council's pledge to be carbon-neutral. The proposed increase in the number of flights will significantly increase carbon emissions. No attempts at mitigation will stop these emissions.

Apart from the effects of carbon emissions on climate, emissions from aircraft and vehicles cause atmospheric pollution. According to a report by the British Heart Foundation, people living in Luton are breathing some of the most polluted air in the East of England
(https://www.itv.com/news/anglia/2019-12-05/luton-residents-breathe-some-of
-the-most-polluted-air-in-the-east-of-england-study-shows/).

For all these reasons I oppose the application and I ask the Planning Inspectorate to reject it.