

Preamble: I am a South Luton resident: we purchased our home here in 2006. The airport at the time did not significantly intrude into our life, as it does now. Our home is situated directly under the flight path, and we enjoyed watching the movements at the time. Now, both outbound and inbound flights are extremely intrusive for us. The Pandemic reminded us what clearer air was like, the birds and wild life in general were much more noticeable. Once normal operations were resumed the noise seemed worse than ever.

This summer seemed particularly busy. It was exceptionally hot so we were deafened all the time as the windows were open. Within the traditional operating hours of 6am – 12 midday and again from about 16.00 hrs and midnight the noise has been constant. Flights in these times operate as frequently as every 2 minutes. We also have flights inbound during the hours of 12 midnight and at least 4 am, which has been going on for months. Some of these are heavy freight planes (DHL etc) but also there has been a high number of commercial passenger arrivals. To arrive as a passenger, at this early time in the morning is as horrible as it is for us to hear. I was disappointed to hear that it was considered that any increase in noise levels would be imperceptible. To increase the flight numbers at all will create an exceptional increase in noise. As for the possibility that aircraft will become less noisy in the near future, this will never happen in my lifetime.

The noise parameters given in the Planning Application approval of 2013 have never been met. These were lower than the current request so what confidence can we have that anyone will control the original requirements let alone stop this latest application.

Overcrowded skies: Luton airport is in very close proximity to Stansted airport which is only about 30 miles from here as the crow flies. it is not far from London City airport, and of course London Heathrow and Gatwick are relatively close too. I can see online the volume of air traffic in this area is phenomenal. The noise increment requested in this application, is already implemented as far as I can tell, although I am not able to afford a noise monitor, my ears do work.

I think there is an increase in numbers of flights from those agreed in the 2018 application also. The aircraft movements take place much later than the midnight to 6am period which I have always believed was the approved 'quiet time'. Not only are there flights during this time, there are also engines being tested and run causing a constant drone during the night. I am constantly emailing LTN Noise Enquiries, to complain, but I am just fobbed off with pictures of spaghetti, and platitudes.

Safety: I have significant concern for our safety. I cannot see how it would be possible to increase the number of take offs and landings on the existing runway even it were extended. The runway is directly aligned with the border with Hertfordshire, leaving very little room for any expansion. Just recently an inbound flight came from the Stevenage approach, which had to go up and round again, as it could not land. The roar of the engines in this situation is frightening and the power surge must add greatly to pollution. This plane flew outside the swathe designated, over the water tower and out to Aylesbury, coming back around to pick up the flight path, crossing the trajectory of 2 private jet landings and one commercial aircraft. This is **not** an isolated incident. I fear that in the unimaginable situation, should there be an accident, we live rather too close to the runway for safety.

Finally: I am concerned that there is a conflict of interest in all of this. How can the LBC planning department vote on the submitted application from Luton Rising, when LBC is the owner of the airport, and has a vested interest in trying to make it profitable once again - a bit 'poacher and

gamekeeper'? I am given to understand that LBC have invested £170 million in Luton Rising operations, as well as funding all the infrastructure requirements to date. Where is all this money coming from? No wonder the town has been neglected.

The previous airport concessionaires contributed to local funds quite generously. I do not believe this is happening now. I have no confidence that there will ever be much in the way of financial contributions from the company running LLAL today, to help the council and the people of Luton, however much is done for them. I do not think the interests of Luton Residents are being fairly and robustly considered.

It was intimated that Luton is a deprived area, and that the town needs investment. **We most certainly do!** This town has a wonderful history and was always thriving, until recently.