

# GACC NEWSLETTER

Number 130

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Dear Members

**[GACC submits response to Gatwick's expansion consultation](#)** GACC has submitted its response to Gatwick's consultation on its expansion plans. We've

submitted a full response and also prepared summary and short responses that members may want to refer to. Links to each are below.

**[FULL RESPONSE](#)**

**[SHORT RESPONSE](#)**

**[SUMMARY RESPONSE](#)**

Our response strongly opposes the proposed expansion and any further growth at Gatwick.

It shows that the economic and employment benefits Gatwick claims for the project are illusory. Gatwick's own consultants say there would be no employment benefits at a national level. The airport's wider assessment of economic benefits is based on unsupportable or out-of-date assumptions, omissions and errors. It is likely that the scheme in fact has a negative economic value.

We've also assessed the significant adverse climate change and community impacts of expansion and highlighted them in clear ways that Gatwick has failed to do. Amongst other things expansion would:

- Increase the airport's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by nearly 50% from 2018. Emissions attributable to Gatwick would grow from less than 1% of total UK emissions in 2019 to over 5.5% by 2038.
- Increase car travel to the airport by over 40% compared to 2019, causing congestion and impacting air quality.
- Increase flights by 35% compared to 2019, causing substantially more aircraft noise across large parts of Surrey, Sussex and Kent.

**We encourage all members and supporters to respond to the consultation before it closes on 1 December.** The consultation documents and response options are

here:- [Gatwick Consultation details](#).

## **[Consultation not fit for purpose](#)**

We have also concluded that the consultation is not fit for purpose because it gives an erroneous and misleading impression of the need for the development, uses projections that are not consistent with the Airports National Policy Statement, contains material errors and omissions in its economic analysis and mischaracterises the noise impacts of the proposed development.

For these and other reasons we do not believe the consultation meets the requirements of the Planning Act and we consider that any application based on it should be rejected on the grounds of inadequate consultation. We have informed Gatwick of this and will also be informing the Planning Inspectorate and local Councils.

In a press release issued yesterday, Peter Barclay, Chairman of GACC, said:

*“Gatwick’s proposals are opportunistic and have no merit. Its case for growth simply doesn’t stack up and the consequences are unthinkable. It would be completely unacceptable to allow CO<sub>2</sub> increases and other climate and community impacts on the scale proposed just to facilitate an increase in leisure travel, mainly for the benefit of frequent flyers.*

*It’s remarkable that at a time when aviation’s climate and other impacts are under scrutiny as never before, Gatwick should choose to bring forward these grotesque proposals. The airport should focus on cleaning up its act by reducing its already huge climate, noise and other impacts rather than trying to enrich its shareholders”.*

### **Joining GACC: please spread the word**

Please encourage your friends, family and neighbours to join GACC and help protect the interests of communities around the airport and under flight paths. Information on how to join is on our website here: <http://www.gacc.org.uk/contact-us.php>.

### **GACC contact details**

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