

# POINTS TO MAKE TO MPs, COUNCILS AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT

## GATWICK AIRPORT: GROWTH WITHOUT SCRUTINY

Gatwick has announced that it plans to grow very substantially both by using its main runway more intensively and by making routine use of its emergency runway.

However, the Development Consent Order it is seeking only addresses the 40% of its growth that would come from routine use of its emergency runway for the first time. Gatwick believes that the 60% of its growth to be achieved by making more intensive use of its main runway does **not** require planning consent.

We do not believe it is right for the airport to be able to grow in this way without a full assessment of all the impacts of that growth, including public consultation. It is clearly wrong that the smaller element of Gatwick's proposed growth should be subject to thorough scrutiny and assessment through a DCO process but that the larger element should escape scrutiny.

Growth on this scale without scrutiny is also contrary to Government policy which requires major growth at all airports to be "*judged by the relevant planning authority, taking careful account of all relevant considerations, particularly economic and environmental impacts and proposed mitigations*".

Gatwick should not be able to avoid complying with government policy by clever manipulation of the planning process.

We ask you to take all necessary measures to ensure that Gatwick's main runway growth plans are brought within the scope of a robust, independent planning process.