SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Sponsorship of local organisations and events has long been a part of Gatwick Airport’s community engagement. Throughout 2017, £300,000 in grants were made from the Gatwick Foundation Fund to non-profit organisations including charities, social enterprises, community groups and voluntary organisations to promote employment, training and skills, support to families, the elderly and young people at a local level across Kent, Surrey and Sussex.

Since 2016, the airport has been supporting St Catherine’s Hospice, Cancer Research UK and continuing its relationship with our on-site charity Gatwick TravelCare. In 2017, the funds generated from charity globes across the airport evenly distributed £146,931.18 across the three charity partners.

GATWICK TRAVELCARE

Gatwick TravelCare has historically received an annual donation from the Foreign Commonwealth Office, however due to more stringent processes being introduced to receive funding we have increased our donation in order to continue to provide support to passengers facing difficulty or distress at the airport. We also hosted a marquee for them at the Gatwick Fun Day in September to raise their profile and fundraising.

ST CATHERINE’S HOSPICE

Gatwick has raised £113,000 for St Catherine’s Hospice over the last two years, supporting end-of-life care and support to terminally ill people and their families across Crawley, Horsham, East Surrey and Mid-Sussex.

Sponsored events such as the St Catherine’s Hospice Midnight Walk, encourages fundraising for the charity or many of our staff volunteering to lend their support.

For our 2017 Decade of Change Performance Report please visit www.gatwickairport.com/sustainabilityreport
CRAWLEY FESTIVAL

In 2017, Gatwick sponsored the Crawley Festival for the third year in a row, with a week of festivities as the town celebrated its 70th birthday. Gatwick sponsored one of the music stages as well as providing a marquee giving free DJ sessions. Following the Festival, Gatwick sponsored a 'community week' featuring musical theatre, folk music and performances from young musicians over four nights.

BRIGHTON MARATHON

A two year partnership with the Brighton Marathon has allowed Gatwick to be part of a powerful community initiative focusing on health and wellbeing, family/accessibility and sustainability. By sponsoring the Mini Mile, Gatwick allowed over 3,100 children free entry to take part in the Cancer Research UK Kids and Teens Mini Mile Races with those taking part invited to make an optional donation to Cancer Research UK.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMMES

Sponsoring South and South East in Bloom in 2017 provided Gatwick with a great opportunity to connect with local communities in the surrounding areas. This annual programme has a positive impact in towns and villages right across the region and our involvement reflects our focus on supporting the diverse habitats around the airport.

Gatwick Greenspace Partnership also delivered another successful ‘Gatwick Goes Wild’ series of activities, which is a week of wildlife recording, guided walks, bush-craft and outdoor education events that included two very well attended family bush-craft days.

SUPPORTING THE EVERYDAY SUPERHERO

Gatwick was a sponsorship partner for Superhero Series - the UK's only disability sport event for the everyday superhero, broadcasted on Channel 4. Three teams from Gatwick took part in the triathlon alongside around 2,000 Paralympians, TV personalities and everyday superheroees with disabilities. One of the Gatwick teams included Gordon Reid, Paralympic gold medalist and professional wheelchair tennis player, who took the role of team captain and participated in the push/run stage of the triathlon (1km), joined by Tim Norwood, Gatwick's Director of Corporate Affairs, Planning and Sustainability (bike 3km) and Abbie Breakwell (an everyday superhero who doubles as a wheelchair tennis player) who took on the swim.

SUPPORTING THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY

Gatwick was the first ever sponsor of the Community Parade at Brighton Pride Festival. Gatwick led the parade with a walking party of 100 airport employees, including colleagues from across the Gatwick Family to ensure an airport wide approach. The event took place over three days from 4 to 6 August, bringing together more than 300,000 people to celebrate the diversity of the LGBTQ community.

OTHER CHARITABLE SUPPORT

We also worked with the Royal British Legion in November for an on-airport Poppy Appeal and raised just over £20,000. This year saw volunteers across the airport come together in support of the Appeal in hosting the tables for poppy sales.

Awareness of our match funding has continued to build following promotions across the business. This has not only benefitted our charity partners but many causes close to the hearts of staff.

Gatwick also celebrated World Autism Awareness Day in April. Travelling through an airport can be a challenge for people affected by autism and the event in the North Terminal allowed families to ‘check in’, ride on assistance buggies, meet trained security dogs and the police, watch the x-ray machines in action and talk with staff about travelling with autism.

CRAWLEY FESTIVAL

In 2017, Gatwick sponsored the Crawley Festival for the third year in a row, with a week of festivities as the town celebrated its 70th birthday. Gatwick sponsored one of the music stages as well as providing a marquee giving free DJ sessions. Following the Festival, Gatwick sponsored a ‘community week’ featuring musical theatre, folk music and performances from young musicians over four nights.

BRIGHTON MARATHON

A two year partnership with the Brighton Marathon has allowed Gatwick to be part of a powerful community initiative focusing on health and wellbeing, family/accessibility and sustainability. By sponsoring the Mini Mile, Gatwick allowed over 3,100 children free entry to take part in the Cancer Research UK Kids and Teens Mini Mile Races with those taking part invited to make an optional donation to Cancer Research UK.

Reusable Gatwick branded water bottles, chosen for their sustainability credentials, were handed out to all finishers and the organisers installed a number of stand pipes across the event village in an initiative to help reduce plastic waste for the event.

During the unseasonable heat, our airport branded Fast-Track and Assistant Lane was a welcome relief to families and those with disabilities.
INSPIRING YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH LEARN LIVE

Our Learn Live Broadcasts enabled Gatwick to reach an average of 50 schools every month, with almost 20,000 student views across the year. Working across the whole airport we were able to inform and inspire students and their teachers about the wide and varied jobs and careers available at the airport.

PROMOTING STEM SKILLS

STEM skills are important for a wide range of jobs at the airport and we have promoted STEM through our headline sponsorship of the Big Bang South East. Over 70 Gatwick volunteers hosted 15 interactive activities covering a wide range of airport functions, and helped raise the profile of our engineering apprenticeship scheme to the 9,000 students who attended. A ‘Bio-diversity’ stand with Gatwick Greenspace also highlighted the conservation work going on around Gatwick.

70 Gatwick Volunteers

15 Interactive Activities

9,000 Students Attended

OUR EDUCATION PROGRAMME

In 2017 we focused on building existing education partnerships, piloting various projects and shaping Gatwick’s future education programme.

Through our Engineering Apprentice and Graduate programmes we maintain strong links and partnerships with local further education colleges and Universities. At Brighton University, our engineering and STEM programmes are shaped by Tomorrow’s Engineers Week, where our Engineering Manager and Apprentices have spoken at several events. Gatwick has also funded a PhD at the University of Sussex.

OUR PEOPLE SUPPORTING LOCAL CAUSES

In 2017, 65 staff members swapped their regular roles for retail as part of a volunteering challenge in St Catherine’s Hospice charity shops. Friendly competition and a series of tasks made it a worthwhile day in support of one of our charity partners.

In addition to financial grants, the Gatwick Foundation Fund provides local volunteering opportunities for employees across the local area in which Gatwick operates. Given the Foundation Fund was only launched in the autumn of 2016, there were limited opportunities to volunteer in projects that received grants in 2017.

One example of a grant recipient that saw volunteers from Gatwick was Delight in Learning. Delight work with primary schools situated in disadvantaged Surrey communities to ensure children from disadvantaged backgrounds have books in their home. In November the partner school was very local in Horley. Volunteers sorted donated books in the morning and ran the book fair at the supported school in Horley in the afternoon. 450 books were donated, 875 books were passed on to just over 300 children and 55 parents/carers visited the fair.

70 Gatwick Volunteers

15 Interactive Activities

9,000 Students Attended

‘BE THE CHANGE’ MENTORING PROGRAMME

The number of volunteers in our education programme has increased this year not just within Gatwick employees but amongst the wider Gatwick Family. We have continued to support the ‘Be the Change’ mentoring programme with 10 volunteers and we have started to look into building different mentoring opportunities across the region to open up more personal development opportunities for employees.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Working in collaboration with our HR and engineering teams, Gatwick delivered four successful structured work experience weeks with a local partnered school, with the aim of inspiring the future generation and building our pipeline of talent.

INSPIRING YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH LEARN LIVE

Our Learn Live Broadcasts enabled Gatwick to reach an average of 50 schools every month, with almost 20,000 student views across the year. Working across the whole airport we were able to inform and inspire students and their teachers about the wide and varied jobs and careers available at the airport.

ENGAGEMENT WITH OUR NEIGHBOURS

We continued to build on the programme of increased engagement with the publication of our quarterly community newsletter and direct engagement with local parish, town and neighbourhood representatives through a series of half-day engagement events at the airport. ‘Discover Gatwick’ offers parish councillors and other community representatives the opportunity to visit the airport, meet our team and understand more about the airport operation and how we work to manage its impacts.
Local community groups are also represented on the independent Noise Management Board (NMB). The core role of the NMB is to co-ordinate a noise management vision and subsequent strategies for Gatwick on behalf of stakeholder organisations. The public meeting in December 2017 gave attendees the chance to learn more about the progress of the NMB and about the work Gatwick Airport has been undertaking with its industry and community partners. It also gave participants the opportunity to discuss topics face-to-face with a variety of industry experts, including pilots and air traffic controllers and to experience first-hand specialist interactive noise tutorials.

In September we partnered with the Gatwick Aviation Museum to deliver the first Gatwick Fun Day which was a huge success, attracting over 1,200 visitors on the day, enjoying a wealth of fascinating museum exhibits and interacting with airport displays including the Fire Service, Biodiversity, Airfield Operations and Surface Transport teams. We also welcomed our charity partners, local caterers and entertainment providers.

GATWICK AIRPORT COMMUNITY TRUST

Through our S106 Agreement with West Sussex County Council and Crawley Borough Council we fund the Gatwick Airport Community Trust which is an independent trust supporting local charities.

The Trust ensures that as the airport continues to grow, funds are ploughed back in to the local communities most affected by the airport and its operations.

As part of the 2017 grant application scheme, 130 applications were received by the Gatwick Airport Community Trust totalling £455,047. At the end of May, the trust awarded grants of £195,428 to 107 different charities and community organisations for projects in East and West Sussex, Surrey and Kent. This included two larger grants of £10,000 per year for two years to each of The Tall Ships Trust and the Capel Sports Pavilion.

2017 NOMINATED CHARITIES

TravelCare is a charity providing assistance and support for passengers who are in difficulty at the Airport, whether on a normal day or during times of major incident and emergency.

ST CATHARINE’S HOSPICE

St Catherine’s Hospice is a local charity with a big ambition; to help everyone face death informed, supported and pain free. It’s there for people throughout Gatwick and the surrounding area, with expert hospice care, when and where they need it most. Expert staff are on hand to support people living with terminal illness in their homes, community and hospice building.

CANCER RESEARCH UK

Cancer Research UK is the world’s leading charity dedicated to beating cancer through research. Every day in the UK, there are more than 400 people diagnosed with cancer who will survive the disease for more than 10 years thanks to research.

130 Applications to the Gatwick Airport Community Trust

£195,428 awarded to 107 different charities and community organisations