Our pledges for the local community

A second runway at Gatwick would create around £90 billion of economic benefits for the UK. But we are also determined to be a good neighbour paying particular attention to the views of the local communities in which our expansion plans would be delivered.

Through our major public consultation we listened to the views of local people. We have created a series of pledges worth more than £250 million to help deliver improvements in many of the areas that matter to local people the most.

HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE

£46.5m to help local authorities deliver essential community infrastructure

From our engagement with local authorities, and responses to our consultation, it was clear that local people wanted to know more about the numbers of homes a Gatwick second runway would create and how existing infrastructure like schools and hospitals would cope with further local development. Gatwick has responded to these views by creating a new housing and infrastructure pledge:

• A second runway is expected to create the demand for 9,300 new homes. To support these new homes and existing local communities, Gatwick will provide funds to local authorities to help them deliver a range of local infrastructure improvements
• The £46.5 million scheme will provide local authorities with £5,000 per new house built to help fund local infrastructure improvements
• The infrastructure improvements will depend on the needs of each local area but will contribute towards investments in local community facilities.

JOBS AND APPRENTICESHIP

A £3.75m fund to help create 2,500 new apprenticeships for local young people

Public consultation activity highlighted concerns that the new jobs created by Gatwick expansion would not directly benefit the local area. Gatwick has responded to this by creating a Jobs and Apprenticeship pledge:

• Gatwick expansion will create around 120,000 jobs. To ensure local young people directly benefit from the new jobs being created, Gatwick will establish a new £3.75 million apprenticeship fund
• The fund will help airport employers and local companies create 2,500 new job opportunities for local young people — a grant of £1,500 will be given to cover the start-up costs of each new apprenticeship created
• Successful students will be selected from across the South-East region — with arrange of possible apprenticeships, not only in airport-related jobs or industries
• Gatwick will partner and consult with airport employers, local councils and key colleges to create and deliver the scheme.
BUSINESS AND LOCAL LANDOWNER

New Engagement Charter with dedicated team to help local landowners and businesses

While the expansion of Gatwick would create many thousands of local jobs and business opportunities, existing local landowners and businesses want to know more about how they will be affected:

- The new Engagement Charter sets out how Gatwick will engage, support and compensate affected businesses and landowners
- Engagement measures include setting up a dedicated helpline, website and newsletter to keep local businesses up-to-date, as well as assigning a team of Case Managers to work with affected landowners and businesses
- For those properties which Gatwick needs to purchase, Gatwick will engage with all parties as early as possible to reach agreement on the purchase
- Gatwick will then continue to support and work with each party to agree compensation measures at an early stage and to help facilitate their replacement property search wherever possible.

AIR QUALITY

Gatwick will continue to meet all legal air quality standards

Gatwick’s plan will result in much lower air pollution impacts than other airports’ expansion plans and will use industry-leading initiatives to continue to meet the legal air quality standards which Heathrow regularly breaches today:

- Landing charges will be structured to reward airlines for operating cleaner flights
- Zero or low-emission hybrid or electric vehicle charging and fuel facilities will be provided for passengers, staff, operational vehicles, coaches and buses
- Gatwick Airport’s Operational Vehicle Fleet will be zero or low emission (or run on low carbon fuels) by 2025
- Reduced or single engine taxiing will continue in collaboration with our airlines
- We will work with our contractors to use low emission construction vehicle fleets, plant and equipment
- To demonstrate compliance with air quality standards we will continue to monitor air quality at the airport and in Horley, and introduce two new permanent monitoring stations in the northern parts of Crawley.

NOISE MITIGATION

Unique initiatives form an industry leading approach to noise

Local people understandably raised the issue of noise created by a second runway and the impact it would have on their property. To address these concerns, Gatwick will continue its industry-leading approach to noise mitigation with a range of initiatives:

- Gatwick’s unique Council Tax Initiative would see those homes most affected by noise from a second runway receiving annual compensation equivalent to Band A Council Tax (currently £1,000) if and when the runway becomes operational. Heathrow offers no similar monetary scheme
- Gatwick has already significantly expanded its noise insulation scheme which is the most innovative of any airport in Europe and is unmatched by Heathrow
- The expanded scheme increases Gatwick’s noise boundary by 15km each end of the runway, ensuring over 40% more homes are protected from noise than before
- The scheme provides hundreds more local homes with up to £3,000 towards double glazing and loft insulation.
TRANSPORT

Gatwick will be “road and rail ready” for a second runway by 2021

Public consultation highlighted questions around how local roads and rail links would cope with the additional traffic created by an expanded airport. A series of transformational public transport improvements have already been committed to by the Government such as Thameslink. Gatwick has responded by setting out a series of promises and targets to improve local transport and mitigate congestion:

- The airport will ensure local road networks will be no more congested than they are today including setting up a £10 million local highway development fund to meet any additional works
- Gatwick already achieves 45% of passengers using public transport. Improvements will help increase this to 60% by 2040, comparable with the best airports in the world
- Gatwick will fully fund any road improvements such as M23 Junction 9 and A23 diversion
- Investment in the Gatwick Gateway, a world class interchange for the airport that will also serve the local community and the wider region
- An increase in sustainable access and public transport.

HOMEOWNER

Increased compensation funds for those homeowners most affected by expansion

Some residential properties would need to be purchased to provide space for an expanded Gatwick (though considerably less homes than in Heathrow’s plans). A series of funds will be set-up to ensure these homeowners receive fair compensation over and above statutory requirements:

- For those homes that need to be compulsorily purchased, a Property Market Support Bond fund of £131 million will offer owners 25% above market value for their properties
- These payments are significantly above what Gatwick is statutorily required to offer home-owners — compensation is typically offered at a minimum of 10% above market
- In addition, there is a £14 million Home Owners Support Scheme to buy any homes that would be subject to high levels of aircraft noise — above a set noise level — under the new plans.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Gatwick recognises that expansion will impact on the local environment and will continue to minimise, mitigate, and compensate

During public consultation, local people raised questions around the effect of a second runway on local rivers, ancient woodland and green open space. Gatwick has responded by:

- We will replace woodland at 2:1 ratio for non-ancient and 3:1 for ancient woodland with the aim of a net gain in woodland provision
- New woodlands will be developed using transplanted material that will match as closely as is possible the character of the ancient woodland affected
- An investment programme of up to £30 million will provide best practice flood resilience measures which will protect our local communities downstream of the airport
- The River Mole and Crawters Brook will be diverted into open channel replacing more than 500 metres of culvert and will be designed to develop a more natural form, enhancing biodiversity
- The new water courses will be encompassed in a linear park forming part of the airport perimeter landscaping and, over time, the river corridors will provide excellent wildlife habitat.
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<th>Description</th>
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