GATWICK AIRSPACE OFFICE
7TH FLOOR DESTINATIONS PLACE
GATWICK AIRPORT
WEST SUSSEX RH6 0NP

7 April 2026

[redacted]
Secretary of State for Transport
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

Dear Secretary of State,

Dispensations Granted for Winter Season 2025/26

As set out in the Night Flight Dispensations Guidance published on 22 February 2024[1], under Section 78 of the Civil Aviation Act 1982, we are required to report to you on winter season night flight dispensations. In the table below we have detailed the rationale for the dispensations recorded for London Gatwick operations during the winter season 2025/2026. This covers the period between 0100hrs on Sunday 26 October 2025 to 0059hrs on Sunday 29 March 2026.

Reason	Number of dispensations
Government dispensation - FCDO charter repatriation flight due to the Middle East conflict, letter received from DfT dated 6 March 2026	3
Total	**3**

Table 1: Number of dispensations granted during the winter season in 2025/26

In relation to the reasons for dispensation outlined in Table 1, these circumstances are classified as unforeseen and granted at the request of the Department for Transport to relieve hardship for passengers repatriated following the unprecedented conflict in the Middle East.

[1] https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/night-flight-dispensations/night-flight-dispensations

The 3 flights detailed in Table 1 have been dispensed in accordance with the guidance set out in the Department for Transport *Guidelines on flights that may be given dispensation from the night restrictions* (February 2024). These dispensable reasons would be required in future equivalent seasons to effectively manage and mitigate passenger hardship arising from abnormal or extraordinary circumstances that are beyond the reasonable control of the airlines and/or the airport operator.

Should you or your team have any questions, do not hesitate to contact [redacted]

Yours sincerely,

Pierre-Hugues Schmit
Chief Executive - London Gatwick