



**LONDON GATWICK**



GATWICK AIRSPACE OFFICE  
7<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR DESTINATIONS PLACE  
GATWICK AIRPORT  
WEST SUSSEX RH6 0NP

26 November 2024

Louise Haigh MP  
Secretary of State for Transport  
Department for Transport  
Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London  
SW1P 4DR

Dear Secretary of State,

## Dispensations Granted for Summer Season 2024

As set out in the Night Flight Dispensations Guidance published on 22 February 2024<sup>1</sup>, under Section 78 of the Civil Aviation Act 1982, we are required to report to you on Summer Season night flight dispensations. In the table below we have detailed the rationale for the dispensations recorded for London Gatwick during the summer season 2024. This covers the period between 0100hrs on Sunday 31 March 2024 to 0159hrs on Sunday 27 October 2024.

Reason	Number of dispensations
Weather in European airspace	497
Weather in local LTMA airspace	326
ATC staffing in Europe	193
Microsoft global IT failure 20 July 2024	27
Runway closure due to an aircraft technical problem 29 June 2024	21
Government requested for Champions League Final 1 June 2024	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,069</b>

Table 1: Number of dispensations granted during the summer season in 2024

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/night-flight-dispensations/night-flight-dispensations>



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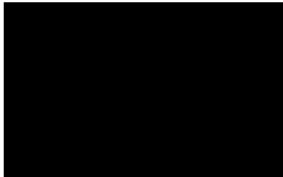


With regard to the reasons for dispensation set out in Table 1 related to weather and ATC staffing constraints, as they are unforeseen or unpredictable circumstances and beyond the control of our airlines, we would expect to continue to dispense for these reasons in summer 2025. Similarly, one-off events such as the Global IT outage and the runway closure due to a safety issue are not events that we can predict or anticipate the impact to the planned schedule. We would therefore expect dispensations to be made available for these unforeseen events next year.

The 1,069 flights detailed in Table 1 have been dispensed in accordance with the guidance detailed in the *Department for Transport Guidelines on Flights Which May Be Given Dispensation from the Night Restrictions* (February 2024). These dispensable reasons would be required in future equivalent seasons to cover abnormal and/or extraordinary circumstances, which are outside of the control of the airlines and/or the airport manager in order to manage and mitigate passenger hardship or suffering.

Should you or your team have any questions, do not hesitate to contact [REDACTED] (the London Gatwick Airspace & Noise Programme Manager).

Yours sincerely,



[REDACTED]  
Chief Executive Officer  
London Gatwick