

Dear Commission,

In consideration of your paper on airport capacity and the arguments laid out, there is one point I strongly believe should be incorporate in to the future thinking.

The question about runways, is not just about capacity, but appropriate capacity.

I noticed that in your noise-consultation paper and the consequent submission of noise-contours by the CAA, it used data which predates 2012 when Heathrow significantly changed their flight patterns, which is highly visible in the number of complaints received thereafter.

The issue, is that the noise from Heathrow is now on many days over 75dB right in zone 1 of London, meaning both that many more people are affected than stated and the disturbances are significantly worse. Also, these flights, on a daily basis, start 4.30-5am and continues until 11pm, leaving little time of respite.

A lot of the airport capacity arguments are based on London being a world-class, city which will therefore attract talent. However, no city planner in the world, if starting with a clean sheet, would consider it a reasonable idea to fly more than half a million planes right over 1.5m people and expose them to the health hazards, the pollution, the risks of accidents and the noise, which is turning areas such as Westminster, Lambeth and even Hyde park in to noise-ghettos.

Therefore, when considering capacity, one needs to consider the appropriateness of the existing capacity. The simple truth is that Heathrow at the moment is not fit for purpose as it has over the last 2 years (ever since the changes in 2012) become a nuisance and burden to central London. The commission is right to consider many things when it evaluates options, but if it is serious about support Great Britain and London as both economic hub and a place that attracts people, it seriously need to consider the damage the current set-up is causing.

I would be grateful if you can confirm receipt of this email and let me know that you will take these points in to consideration in your future thinking.

Kind regards