

Mrs Anne Main M.P.

St Albans



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP
Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government
Department for Communities and Local Government
Eland House
Bressenden Place
London
SW1E 5DU

Our ref: SA7674/EB

29 October 2012

Dear Secretary of State,

I am writing regarding the proposed 'Luton Masterplan' which if granted will affect many of my constituents.

I have recently met with the Managing Director of Luton Airport and discussed the 'Luton Masterplan'. When speaking to the Director I made my concerns about such a proposal clear, particularly that I do not expect my constituents to experience nuisance noise as a result of aircrafts, nor do I expect to hear of rerouting or path changes that dogged my constituents previously. Aircraft noise is a constant aggravation to those who live under airport flight paths, and after conducting some research I was astounded to learn that firstly Aircraft noise is explicitly excluded from general noise nuisance legislation. Furthermore any airport other than Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted, noise created is the responsibility of the individual owners/operators, and noise at airports is considered a local matter best dealt with at the local level.

I do feel that as Luton is not subject to the same restrictions as these other airports and is applying to become a main transport hub there should be a full impact evaluation and called in for examination.

Whilst I appreciate the need for increased airport capacity in the South East I feel there are problems with the proposal of Luton. This includes increased traffic in the area particularly around the already congested M25 and M1 and also in my constituency.

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Earlier this year I raised my concerns about Luton expansion and made my representations to the futureLuToN consultation. I felt that there were serious issues regarding this proposal particularly in relation to aircraft noise. I do not think that my constituents should be asked to put up with an increase in noise that reduces their quality of life.

Luton airport is already running at twice the capacity approved in the proposal of 1998 and I am regularly contacted by constituents regarding aircraft noise. The proposal for Luton is a major decision which will have huge repercussions for my constituency and I therefore ask for a full impact assessment and examination of this proposal.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large loop followed by a long horizontal stroke with a small loop at the end.

Anne Main MP

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