

Gatwick's Response to Coronavirus

Gatwick Airport has today announced steps to safeguard the financial resilience of its business by significantly reducing its cost base. From today, with the exception of emergency landings, the airport will close to flights between midnight and 05.30. Further actions are expected to be announced in the coming days.

In terms of capital expenditure, the airport is deferring spending on its investment programme for the foreseeable future.

Stewart Wingate, Gatwick's Chief Executive Officer and his executive team will take a 20% salary cut and will waive any bonus for the current financial year. Sadly, Gatwick has also terminated the employment of 200 staff employed on temporary fixed-term contracts and contractors.

Gatwick Noise Management Board "Paused"

With the current situation likely to worsen over the coming weeks, Gatwick has decided to avoid

hosting any meetings with external visitors at the airport and is avoiding any travel to off-site

meetings. It has therefore been decided that, in the best interests of all, the Noise Management

Board will be paused with immediate effect. Unfortunately, the uncertainty surrounding the impact and longevity of the Coronavirus means that it will be difficult to determine when the

Noise Management Board will re-commence, but we will keep you updated as the situation develops.

Gatwick's Emergency Runway Plans on Hold

Gatwick has also recently confirmed that, as a result of the pandemic, it is reviewing the timing of

the public consultation in relation to its emergency runway expansion proposals. The airport has

emphasised that whilst much of their preparatory work is well advanced, they are now reviewing

options on the future timing for the public consultation.

NMB Executive Board Representation

You may recall that one of the key concerns we had with the new Noise Management Board was

the reduction in Community Noise Group representation on the NMB Executive Board (NEX). I'm

pleased to say that, after strong lobbying, it has been agreed that community noise groups will

now have two (previously only one) representatives on the NMB Executive Board.

Community

Noise Groups have completed a process to select their representatives on the NEX and I am delighted that I shall be one of the two community noise group reps for the next 12 months.

It is clear that the impacts on the airport have been both significant and rapid. We will try to keep you updated as these issues develop over the coming weeks.