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Gatwick Airport Consultative Committee

20 October 2014

### **APPLICATION TO CHANGE GATWICK'S AIRSPACE DEFERRED**

Updates about the now deferred proposed airspace changes, the Gatwick railway station enhancement scheme and the current position on the airport's bid for a second runway are on the agenda for the next meeting of GATCOM, the Gatwick Airport Consultative Committee.

Gatwick Airport Limited (GAL) and NATS (National Air Traffic Services) have announced that they have deferred submitting any proposals for the Civil Aviation Authority's approval to change local airspace until more detailed work is done to clarify the available options and next steps in the light of feedback from the affected communities. GAL will brief GATCOM on the responses to the consultation and the revised way forward when it meets on Thursday (23 October).

GATCOM is also due to receive information on the progress of the plans and negotiations to deliver the enhancement scheme for Gatwick's railway station.

The Government announced in its Autumn Statement last year that it would contribute £50m towards enhancing Gatwick Airport's station through the construction of a new concourse and ticket hall with enhanced access to platforms - subject to the airport providing an appropriate contribution to the costs of the scheme.

Gatwick's bid for a second runway is also on the agenda and GATCOM has asked GAL to give an update about its work in respect of its various community pledges and how it aims to ensure these are honoured should the bid be successful.

**The GATCOM meeting is being held on Thursday October 23, at the Hilton Hotel, South Terminal, Gatwick from 2pm, and is open to the public to observe proceedings.**

GATCOM Chairman Dr John Godfrey said: "Gatwick's a hot topic of conversation in the South East and nationally at the moment. There has been a lot in the media about the possibility of a second runway and also the proposed changes to flightpaths and the trials that have been under discussion."

"It is clear that changes to the way Gatwick's airspace is used is an important and incredibly sensitive issue for the communities around the airport. GATCOM's role has been to help provide that vital link between the wider communities around Gatwick and

the airport's management enabling the communities' voices to be heard through their GATCOM representative."

Dr Godfrey added "GATCOM will continue to ensure that all parties are appropriately engaged and that affected communities are consulted and kept informed of progress."

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

Gatwick Airport Limited announced on 30 September that the airport and NATS would defer submitting any proposals to change local airspace until more detailed work is done to better understand the available options and next steps. Gatwick's [press release](#) is available on its website.

[Click here](#) to see the GATCOM agenda.

GATCOM has 28 appointed representatives from a wide range of interests including local authorities, civil aviation, passenger, business and community and environmental groups. A Government representative is also present at the main GATCOM meetings, together with Gatwick Airport's Chief Executive and his senior management team.

### WHAT GATCOM DOES:

SEEKS to build interest, communication and understanding between the airport and its users, local residents and the business community.

CONSIDERS airport issues concerned with the environment, surface access, employment, the economy and the circumstances of local communities.

WORKS with the airport to secure a sustainable development strategy.

WORKS to protect and enhance the interests of passengers and other users of the airport.

CONSIDERS and comments on matters referred to it by Gatwick Airport Ltd.

CONSIDERS and responds to consultations from Government and other sources that are material to the operation and future development of the airport.

For further information about GATCOM contact the organisation's secretariat on 033022 22543