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Gatwick Airport Consultative Committee

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BY EMAIL [LGWairspace.Rte4@gatwickairport.com](mailto:LGWairspace.Rte4@gatwickairport.com) FAO: Andy Sinclair

20 April 2026

Dear Andy,

**London Gatwick Route 4 Airspace Change Consultation (ACP-2018-86)–  
GATCOM response.**

Firstly, we thank you for the advance notice of this consultation and for taking the time to attend GATCOM in February and provide a presentation detailing the Route 4 consultation and encouraging members and residents to engage.

Throughout the Route 4 consultation period GATCOM has encouraged our members and interested parties to help promote and to engage in the consultation and we hope that many have submitted responses to you directly.

We have also sought comments and feedback from GATCOM members, and most have stated that the information provided for the consultation and the in-person events and webinars has been very well received, informative and clear. We have been particularly pleased that Gatwick has promoted the consultation via its social media channels as this has allowed members to share information easily.

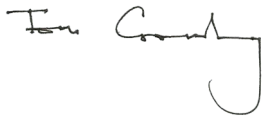
We are aware that there will be diverse views from residents affected by Route 4 which will be very much dependent on their location with respect to the proposed options. Therefore, GATCOM cannot support a particular option or have a view on how options should be prioritised.

However, we do have a comment in relation to these proposals and Airspace Change in general. These proposals do not address the problem with Route 4 which is that of routing Gatwick's most used departure route into the path of Heathrow's southerly departures. This has the effect of keeping Gatwick departing aircraft at low level and creating excessive environmental noise effects and emissions. Regardless of which option is implemented, those residents living close to the route will suffer greater levels of disturbance than would be the case with more flight path dispersal.

We are aware that future Airspace Modernisation may resolve this problem but that could be some time in the future. GATCOM is keen for Gatwick to progress any work that could improve the situation. As you may be aware, GATCOM has recently raised this issue with the Project Steering Group of the Noise Management Board and suggested some project work around this issue, and we very much hope this can be progressed.

We trust these comments are helpful and I am happy for this letter to be published as the GATCOM response to the consultation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Crowley'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end of the name.

Tom Crowley  
GATCOM Chairman