

GATCOM WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

The purpose of GATCOM's newsletter is to help GATCOM member organisations and other interested parties keep up to date with the latest news articles, publications and innovations relating to Gatwick Airport and the wider aviation industry. It is not intended to promote or scrutinise any news articles, press releases or publications referenced.

06 AUGUST 2026

CURRENT NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS

CAA consultation: Consultation on a Proposed Electronic Conspicuity Mandate in the UK

Closing date: 22/09/2026

<https://consultations.caa.co.uk/safety-and-airspace-regulation-group/ec-mandate/>

DfT consultation: Draft Heathrow Expansion National Policy Statement proposed amendments

Closing Date: 01/09/2026

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/draft-heathrow-expansion-national-policy-statement-proposed-amendments>

CAA consultation: Consultation on Amendments to UK Reg (EU)139/2014 and CAP 168 - Consultation relating to aircraft diversion and aircraft diversion plans at certified and licensed aerodromes

Closing date: 21/09/2026

<https://consultations.caa.co.uk/airworthiness-policy-team/consultation-on-amendments-a/>

PUBLICATIONS & INDUSTRY UPDATES

CAA Airport Accessibility Performance Report 2025/26 - covering the performance of UK airports in providing assistance services to disabled and less mobile passengers

CAA – 04/08/2026

<https://www.caa.co.uk/data-and-publications/publications/documents/content/cap3264/>

[Why airspace modernisation remains central to aviation's net zero future](#)

NATS blog – 04/08/2026

[What happens when an airspace change goes live?](#)

NATS blog – 05/08/2026

AEF Response to Government Update on The Revenue Certainty Mechanism For The SAF Mandate

AEF – 04/08/2026

<https://www.aef.org.uk/2026/08/04/aef-response-rcm-update/>

Airspace Architecture Concept of Operations for Enabling BVLOS Operations

CAA – 30/07/2026

<https://www.caa.co.uk/data-and-publications/publications/documents/content/cap3269/#>

See here for explainer document - <https://www.caa.co.uk/publication/download/29468>

GATWICK AIRPORT LIMITED MEDIA RELEASES

Green light for Northern Runway project after Court of Appeal rejects legal challenge

04/08/2026

<https://www.mediacentre.gatwickairport.com/news/london-gatwick-responds-to-court-of-appeal-decision-on-northern-runway-legal-challenge-98e43-40f32.html>

GATWICK AIRPORT PRESS

Gatwick to open second runway as government wins legal challenge

DfT – 04/08/2026

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/gatwick-to-open-second-runway-as-government-wins-legal-challenge>

Campaigners denied appeal over Gatwick expansion

BBC - 04/08/2026

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cjwx9y7dd27o>

Court of Appeal refuses permission to appeal

GACC Press Release – 05/08/2026

<https://www.gacc.org.uk/resources/PR%20-%20GACC%20om%20Court%20of%20Appeal%20Decision%202026.pdf>

Gatwick 2nd runway – Appeal ruling

CAGNE Statement - 04/08/2026

<https://cagne.org/gatwick-2nd-runway-appeal-ruling/>

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Green light for Gatwick's second runway after Court of Appeal ruling

Regional Gateway – 05/08/2026

<https://www.regionalgateway.net/green-light-for-gatwick-airport-second-runway-after-court-of-appeal-ruling/>

'With Gatwick's expansion approved, airport bosses will now hope to land a major US airline'

TTG – 05/08/2026

<https://www.ttgmedia.com/travel-industry-news/gatwicks-expansion-approved-airport-bosses-will-now-hope-land-major-us-airline>

Major UK airport warns that they are running out of fuel

CILT – 04/08/2026

<https://ciltuk.org.uk/news/major-uk-airport-warns-that-they-are-running-out-of-fuel/>

General Headlines

UK airports achieve highest accessibility ratings as passenger assistance demand reaches record levels

International Airport Review – 04/08/2026

<https://www.internationalairportreview.com/uk-airports-achieve-highest-accessibility-ratings-as-passenger-assistance-demand-reaches-record-levels/2136148.article>

'A stealth tax on a basic necessity': Readers slam airport drop-off fees after charges rise by a third

Independent – 04/08/2026

<https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/airport-drop-off-fees-parking-charges-heathrow-gatwick-stansted-b3026582.html>

A stick without a carrot: what airport drop-off charges are missing

LinkedIn – 04/08/2026

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/stick-without-carrot-what-airport-drop-off-charges-missing-darby-ehsse/>

EES 'starting to act as deterrent to travel', European airports trade body warns

Travel Weekly – 30/07/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/ees-starting-to-act-as-deterrent-to-travel-european-airports-trade-body-warns>

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Rising temperatures could keep more flights from taking off on time

Daily Mail – 05/08/2026

<https://www.dailymail.com/wires/ap/article-16030279/Rising-temperatures-flights-taking-time.html>

Industry news

As the skies get busier, will AI help air traffic controllers keep planes flying safely?

The Conversation – 04/08/2026

<https://theconversation.com/as-the-skies-get-busier-will-ai-help-air-traffic-controllers-keep-planes-flying-safely-288433>

£750,000 to launch aviation careers for diverse young talent

Scheme helps break down barriers and empower more young people to pursue careers in aviation and aerospace

DfT – 29/07/2026

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/750000-to-launch-aviation-careers-for-diverse-young-talent>

CAA unveils blueprint for routine UK drone operations

Flyer – 30/07/2026

<https://flyer.co.uk/caa-unveils-blueprint-for-routine-uk-drone-operations/>

Environmental news

Hear from our Chief Sustainability Officer, Neil Robinson, in his role as the current Chair of Sustainable Aviation about what the Road-Map means for the sector

MAG Airports on LinkedIn – July 2026

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/farnborough-international-airshow-2026-ugcPost-7485706302770417664-6DQS/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_ios&rcm=ACoAAAGQtEAB1TrhZlYe-5Uv2FhlqcDQMZwz8Yw

Our airports have won the battle against net zero – but not the war

The Spectator – 05/08/2026

<https://spectator.com/article/our-airports-have-won-the-battle-against-net-zero-but-not-the-war/>

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OTHER UKACCS MEMBER AIRPORTS

Aberdeen

Aberdeen Airport makes all accessible toilets stoma-friendly

The Herald – 02/08/2026

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/26438580.aberdeen-airport-makes-accessible-toilets-stoma-friendly/>

Belfast International

Ryanair passenger numbers reach new monthly high as it hits 7 million landmark at Belfast International

Irish News – 05/08/2026

<https://www.irishnews.com/news/uk/ryanair-passenger-numbers-reach-new-high-FFBDEJDMEBJ2HPBTEBJXAAN2A4/>

Birmingham

Birmingham Airport welcome care-experienced youngsters

Solihull Observer – 03/08/2026

<https://solihullobservers.co.uk/news/birmingham-airport-welcome-care-experienced-youngsters/>

New landside café proves an immediate hit at Birmingham Airport

Birmingham Airport – 04/08/2026

<https://www.birminghamairport.co.uk/latest-news/new-landside-cafe-proves-an-immediate-hit-at-birmingham-airport/>

Bristol

Bristol Airport to open 10 new food and drink outlets as part of terminal transformation

Business Live – 03/08/2026

<https://www.business-live.co.uk/retail-consumer/bristol-airport-open-10-new-34394352>

‘Secret Speakeasy Bar’ To Open At Bristol Airport

Bristol 24/7 – 02/08/2026

<https://www.bristol247.com/food-and-drink/news-food-and-drink/secret-speakeasy-bar-open-bristol-airport/>

East Midlands

East Midlands Airport boosted UK economy by £6.2bn last year

East Midlands Airport – 05/08/2026

<https://mediacentre.eastmidlandsairport.com/east-midlands-airport-boosted-uk-economy-by-62bn-last-year/>

Glasgow

Unite ballots Glasgow Airport workers on strike action

Unite – 05/08/2026

<https://www.unitetheunion.org/news-events/news/2026/august/unite-ballots-glasgow-airport-workers-on-strike-action>

Liverpool

Ninth easyJet aircraft arrives at LJA as new routes to Seville and Naples take off

The Business Desk – 04/08/2026

<https://www.thebusinessdesk.com/northwest/news/2176928-ninth-easyjet-aircraft-arrives-at-lja-as-new-routes-to-seville-and-naples-take-off>

London City

Praise for London City Airport from new mayor of Newham

London Now – 03/08/2026

<https://www.london-now.co.uk/news/26432455.praise-london-city-airport-new-mayor-newham/>

British Airways suspends business class meals at London City after catering switch goes wrong

Travelling for Business – 02/08/2026

<https://travellingforbusiness.co.uk/news/ba-cityflyer-business-class-meals-suspended/>

London Heathrow

Have Your Say: Live Q&A Set on Heathrow Expansion Plans

The Hounslow Herald – 05/08/2026

<https://hounslowherald.com/have-your-say-live-qa-set-on-heathrow-expansion-plans-p33506-95.htm>

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Why approval of Gatwick’s “second runway” should worry Putney residents (HENPS consultation response guidance)

Putney News – 05/08/2026

<https://putney.news/2026/08/05/why-approval-of-gatwicks-second-runway-should-worry-putney-residents/>

Why Heathrow’s expansion matters for the UK’s future workforce

New Civil Engineer – 05/08/2026

<https://www.newcivilengineer.com/latest/why-heathrows-expansion-matters-for-the-uks-future-workforce-05-08-2026/>

Introducing Tony Wong, Director of CISHA’s Heathrow Expansion Independent Community Engagement Board

Heathrow Expansion Watch – 29/07/2026

<https://www.heathrowexpansionwatch.org/blog/introducing-tony-wong-director-of-heiceb>

London Heathrow enhances operational resilience with real-time geospatial platform

Travel Mole – 04/08/2026

<https://travelmole.com/news/london-heathrow-operational-resilience>

London’s black cab drivers told to stick with manual rank process as Heathrow Airport delays digital overhaul

Taxi Point – 02/08/2026

<https://www.taxi-point.co.uk/post/london-s-black-cab-drivers-told-to-stick-with-manual-rank-process-as-heathrow-airport-delays-digital>

New bag check-in service for Heathrow passengers

BBC – 30/07/2026

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c20jr5klk63o>

London Luton

Luton Airport gains green light for ‘community-supporting’ expansion

Travel Weekly – 04/08/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/luton-airport-gains-green-light-for-community-supporting-expansion>

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This London airport is offering free bus travel to its terminal in August

Independent – 05/08/2026

<https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/london-luton-airport-free-bus-travel-b3027785.html>

London Southend

Challenger airport: how London Southend is competing in a tough aviation market

International Airport Review – 29/07/2026

<https://www.internationalairportreview.com/challenger-airport-how-london-southend-is-competing-in-a-tough-aviation-market/2135780.article>

Tesco launches airport pop-up to restock holidaymakers' fridges

Retail Gazette – 29/07/2026

<https://www.retailgazette.co.uk/blog/2026/07/tesco-launches-airport-pop-up-to-restock-holidaymakers-fridges/>

London Stansted

Stansted Express reports 1,000 additional journeys with overnight trial service

Ian Visits – 03/08/2026

<https://www.ianvisits.co.uk/articles/stansted-express-reports-1000-additional-journeys-with-overnight-trial-service-91589/>

Newcastle

New Jet2 flights to ski holidays launch at Newcastle Airport

Hexham Courant – 05/08/2026

<https://www.hexham-courant.co.uk/news/26439239.new-jet2-flights-ski-holidays-launch-newcastle-airport/>