

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.

21 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

Operation Blue Skies Takes Off: Landmark Oceanic Airspace Trial to Test AI-Driven Contrail Avoidance

NATS – 18/08/2026

<https://www.nats.aero/news/operation-blue-skies-takes-off-landmark-oceanic-airspace-trial-to-test-ai-driven-contrail-avoidance/>

What's the hold up: How holding helps manage aircraft traffic

NATS blog – 14/08/2026

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GATWICK AIRPORT LIMITED MEDIA RELEASES

London Gatwick appoints new Chief Human Resources Officer

19/08/2026

<https://www.mediacentre.gatwickairport.com/news/london-gatwick-appoints-new-chief-human-resources-officer-638b8-40f32.html>

London Gatwick Aviation Academy helps more than 100 people take the next step into employment

14/08/2026

<https://www.mediacentre.gatwickairport.com/news/london-gatwick-aviation-academy-helps-more-than-100-people-take-the-next-step-into-employment-4837e-40f32.html>

GATWICK AIRPORT PRESS

Gatwick claims Heathrow's third runway plans leave local households out of pocket

Independent – 18/08/2026

<https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/heathrow-third-runway-compensation-households-gatwick-b3034722.html>

General Headlines

The UK and Google are testing changes to flight paths to tackle aviation's climate impact

Daily Mail – 18/08/2026

<https://www.dailymail.com/wires/ap/article-16061403/The-UK-Google-testing-changes-flight-paths-tackle-aviations-climate-impact.html>

Why flight cancellations are getting much, much worse

Independent – 18/08/2026

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/flight-cancellations-delays-airlines-b3034976.html>

Scottish Government Commits to Additional Private Jet Taxation

AEF – 18/08/2026

<https://www.aef.org.uk/2026/08/18/scottish-government-commits-to-additional-private-jet-taxation/>

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Passenger news

Avoid airport fees using easyJet's 'luggage rule' for group bookings

Gazette Live – 19/06/2026

<https://www.gazettelive.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/avoid-airport-fees-using-easyjets-34484044>

Industry news

Ryanair blames UK air traffic controller shortages for delays

Travel Weekly – 13/08/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/ryanair-blames-uk-air-traffic-controller-shortages-for-delays>

Environmental news

World's Largest Electric Aircraft Just Took Its Maiden Flight Using \$5 Worth Of Electricity

IFL Science – 18/08/2026

<https://www.iflscience.com/worlds-largest-electric-aircraft-just-took-its-maiden-flight-using-5-worth-of-electricity-84393>

OTHER UKACCS MEMBER AIRPORTS

Aberdeen

Passengers report 'shambles' at Aberdeen Airport during security scanner outage

Press & Journal – 18/08/2026

<https://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/fp/news/7088228/aberdeen-airport-security-scanner-outage/>

Birmingham

Birmingham Airport celebrates 'fantastic month' as it marks busiest July ever with record passenger numbers

Express & Star – 17/08/2026

<https://www.expressandstar.com/news/birmingham-airport-marks-busiest-july-ever-with-record-passenger-numbers-8925078>

Birmingham Airport security queues reach '80 minute' wait

Ledbury Reporter – 19/08/2026

<https://www.ledburyreporter.co.uk/news/26477394.birmingham-airport-security-queues-reach-80-minute-wait/>

Birmingham Airport raises £200,000 for Birmingham Children's Hospital

Greater Birmingham Chamber – 19/08/2026

<https://www.greaterbirminghamchambers.com/resource/birmingham-airport-raises-200-000-for-birmingham-children-s-hospital.html>

Bristol

Bristol Airport signs four restaurants including Cosy Club for £400m terminal transformation

The Business Desk – 16/08/2026

<https://www.thebusinessdesk.com/south-west/news/45187-bristol-airport-signs-four-restaurants-including-cosy-club-for-400m-terminal-transformation>

East Midlands

East Midlands Airport delivers £6.2 billion boost to UK economy

Regional Gateway – 17/08/2026

<https://www.regionalgateway.net/east-midlands-airports-6-2bn-economic-boost-to-uk-economy/>

Glasgow

Glasgow Airport offers exclusive viewing experience to mark 60th anniversary

Regional Gateway – 13/08/2026

<https://www.regionalgateway.net/glasgow-airport-offers-exclusive-viewing-experience-to-mark-60th-anniversary/>

Leeds Bradford

EasyJet to stop flying from Leeds Bradford Airport

BBC – 19/08/2026

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cly50n3lyjgo>

Liverpool

Liverpool Airport launches new winter routes across Europe

Wirral Globe – 19/08/2026

<https://www.wirralglobe.co.uk/news/26476948.liverpool-airport-launches-new-winter-routes-across-europe/>

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London City

London City Airport expansion with bigger, quieter planes 'rooted in East London growth'. The aim is to increase passenger capacity from 6.5 million to 9 million a year

My London – 19/08/2026

<https://www.mylondon.news/news/zone-1-news/london-city-airport-expansion-bigger-34478996>

Turkish Airlines Plans London City Flights: But How Will That Work?

Simple Flying – 19/08/2026

<https://simpleflying.com/turkish-airlines-plans-london-city-flights/>

London Heathrow

Sadiq Khan slams Heathrow runway plan after noise reduction spending cut
The airport's proposed spending on noise reduction has been severely cut from £241 million to just £52 million

The Standard – 18/08/2026

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/sadiq-khan-heathrow-runway-london-night-flights-noise-reduction-b1293580.html>

Richard Branson's Virgin Atlantic leads airlines shredding Government's case for third runway at Heathrow

The Standard – 19/08/2026

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/heathrow-flights-third-runway-terminal-tickets-cost-virgin-atlantic-b1293764.html>

MP urges residents to oppose Heathrow third runway plans

London Now – 19/08/2026

<https://www.london-now.co.uk/news/26477236.mp-urges-residents-oppose-heathrow-third-runway-plans/>

Time running out to have say on changes to Heathrow Airport night flights and new terminals

Get Surrey – 19/08/2026

<https://www.getsurrey.co.uk/news/surrey-news/time-running-out-say-changes-34482388>

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Updated: All roads reopen as Heathrow recovers from terminal flooding

Travel Weekly – 16/08/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/passengers-urged-to-avoid-road-travel-to-heathrow>

Menzies Aviation trials AI-powered cargo handling technology at Heathrow

Ground Handling International – 17/08/2026

<https://www.groundhandlinginternational.com/content/news/menzies-aviation-trials-ai-powered-cargo-handling-technology-at-heathrow>

LEAP24 opens four-bay EV charging hub near Heathrow Airport

Business Motoring – 18/08/2026

<https://businessmotoring.co.uk/leap24-opens-four-bay-ev-charging-hub-near-heathrow-airport/>

London Southend

Classic Jets Day with Avro Vulcan at Southend Airport

Echo – 18/08/2026

<https://www.echo-news.co.uk/news/26471080.classic-jets-day-avro-vulcan-southend-airport/>

London Stansted

How London Stansted handled a record 693 flights in one day

ADS Advance – 19/08/2026

<https://www.adsadvance.co.uk/stansted-record-693-flights-one-day/>

Manchester

Manchester Airport's second runway transformed Northern economy, report finds

International Airport Review – 18/08/2026

<https://www.internationalairportreview.com/manchester-airports-second-runway-transformed-northern-economy-report-finds/2136247.article>

Airport boss defends car parking income

BBC – 19/08/2026

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c70gl0wwggdo>

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Andy Burnham told major policy change will transform Manchester Airport for millions in 'golden opportunity'

Manchester Evening News – 17/08/2026

<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/incoming/andy-burnham-manchester-airport-change-34467949>

Newcastle

Building a better tomorrow - Why Newcastle Airport is backing Inspiring Women in Business Awards

Bdaily – 16/08/2026

<https://bdaily.co.uk/articles/2026/08/16/building-a-better-tomorrow-why-newcastle-airport-is-backing-inspiring-women-in-business-awards>

Teesside

Leaders behind major new aircraft conversion campus visit Tees

Tees Business – 14/08/2026

<https://teesbusiness.co.uk/2026/08/14/leaders-behind-major-new-aircraft-conversion-campus-visit-tees/>