

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.

18 SEPTEMBER 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/>

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

Regulator cuts regulatory burden to accelerate airspace modernisation

[Update to CAP1616 process]

CAA – 15/09/2026

<https://www.caa.co.uk/newsroom/news/regulator-cuts-regulatory-burden-to-accelerate-airspace-modernisation/>

Advice to the UK Government on proposed Heathrow Airport expansion

Climate Change Committee – September 2026

<https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/advice-to-the-uk-government-on-proposed-heathrow-airport-expansion/>

Best & worst UK airports 2026

Which? – 09/09/2026

<https://www.which.co.uk/reviews/airports/article/uk-airports/best-and-worst-uk-airports-amiss8P8bbwx>

25 years later: Looking back at how 9/11 reshaped the aviation industry

The Points Guy – 11/09/2026

<https://thepointsguy.com/news/9-11-aviation-industry-25-years-later/>

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The orchestrated airport: Transitioning from connected to intelligent operations

International Airport Review – 10/09/2026

https://www.internationalairportreview.com/reports/ereport-the-orchestrated-airport-transitioning-from-connected-to-intelligent-operations/2136356.article?clearcache=1&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eshot-1&utm_campaign=Intelligent_Smart_Airports_REPORT_Veovo_Idemia_Sep2026&dm_i=7ZP5,114J,FESRA,3O2Y,1,0,0,0

GATWICK AIRPORT LIMITED MEDIA RELEASES

Stewart Wingate to succeed Baroness Margaret Ford as chair of London Gatwick

17/09/2026

<https://www.mediacentre.gatwickairport.com/news/stewart-wingate-to-succeed-baroness-margaret-ford-as-chair-of-london-gatwick-4a042-40f32.html>

London Gatwick Chief Operating Officer Mark Johnston appointed new Chief Executive of Edinburgh Airport

18/09/2026

<https://www.mediacentre.gatwickairport.com/news/london-gatwick-chief-operating-officer-mark-johnston-appointed-new-chief-executive-of-edinburgh-airport-6012b-40f32.html>

London Gatwick invites bids for flagship food and beverage sites as airport prepares for future growth

16/09/2026

<https://www.mediacentre.gatwickairport.com/news/london-gatwick-invites-bids-for-flagship-food-and-beverage-sites-as-airport-prepares-for-future-growth-d4bc5-40f32.html>

GATWICK AIRPORT PRESS

Gatwick Airport Boss Stewart Wingate Awarded Honorary Doctorate by University of Chichester

V2 Radio – 15/09/2026

<https://www.v2radio.co.uk/news/localnews/gatwick-airport-boss-stewart-wingate-awarded-honorary-doctorate-by-university-of-chichester/>

Wilson James strike at Gatwick airport suspended over new offer

Unite – 14/09/2026

<https://www.unitetheunion.org/news-events/news/2026/september/wilson-james-strike-at-gatwick-airport-suspended-over-new-offer>

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Gatwick becomes the first UK airport with robot valets for passengers

CILT – 15/09/2026

<https://ciltuk.org.uk/news/gatwick-becomes-the-first-uk-airport-with-robot-valets-for-passengers/>

London Gatwick launches largest ever food and beverage tender

Passenger Terminal Today – 16/09/2026

<https://www.passengerterminaltoday.com/news/food-beverage/london-gatwick-launches-largest-ever-food-and-beverage-tender.html>

General Headlines

UK Civil Aviation Authority updates Airspace Change Process to reduce red tape and speed up reform [see CAP1616 update in publications]

International Airport Review – 16/09/2026

<https://www.internationalairportreview.com/uk-cao-cuts-regulatory-burden-to-accelerate-airspace-modernisation-process/2136479.article>

CAA claims flight delays will be cut as part of airspace modernisation

Travel Weekly – 15/09/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/cao-claims-flight-delays-will-be-cut-as-part-of-airspace-modernisation>

Regional airports come top in best and worst UK airport rankings

ADS Advance – 13/09/2026

<https://www.adsadvance.co.uk/regional-airports-best-worst-uk-airport-rankings/>

EES introduction ‘delayed’ across nine countries

Travel Weekly – 14/09/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/ees-introduction-delayed-across-nine-countries>

Highest levels of air travel recorded since 2019

BBC – 15/09/2026

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cwkgxj249pj7o>

CAA ordered to conduct independent review into air traffic control failure

Travel Weekly – 10/09/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/cao-ordered-to-conduct-independent-review-into-air-traffic-control-failure>

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Military aircraft entering 'spurious' flight data blamed for air traffic control meltdown which grounded thousands of planes, as aviation minister ridiculed for boasting system was 'well prepared' with 'increased resilience' just a day before

Daily Mail – 11/09/2026

<https://www.dailymail.com/news/article-16123953/Aviation-minister-ridiculed-boasted-air-traffic-control-prepared.html>

Guest article: The capacity regional airports don't have to build

Regional Gateway – 11/09/2026

<https://www.regionalgateway.net/guest-article-the-capacity-regional-airports-dont-have-to-build/>

Campbeds, snacks and baby food: Should airports have contingency plans for disruption?

Independent – 11/09/2026

<https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/gatwick-heathrow-airport-flight-disruption-contingency-plans-nats-b3048510.html>

Passenger news

Flight issues - Passenger unlikely to receive compensation

London Now – 10/09/2026

<https://www.london-now.co.uk/news/26538450.flight-issues---passenger-unlikely-receive-compensation/>

Government to 'think about consumer redress' after ATC failure

Travel Gossip – 10/09/2026

<https://travelgossip.co.uk/latestnews/government-to-think-about-consumer-redress-after-atc-failure/>

Industry news

Ryanair boss demands 'overpaid, failing' air traffic chief be sacked after UK airport crisis

Independent – 11/09/2026

<https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/uk-air-traffic-ceo-ryanair-sacked-martin-rolfe-michael-o-leary-airport-delays-b3048546.html>

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Britain's crumbling vital infrastructure cannot be allowed to fail: The latest 'technical glitch' to cause widespread chaos at Britain's airports must not be allowed to happen yet again. But preventing it will mean confronting the awesome challenge – and cost – of modernising air traffic control

Independent – 09/09/2026

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/editorials/air-traffic-nats-airport-heathrow-broken-britain-b3047375.html>

Environmental news

UK aviation emissions to be 50% higher than thought by 2050, government admits

Carbon Brief – 10/09/2026

<https://www.carbonbrief.org/uk-aviation-emissions-to-be-50-higher-than-thought-by-2050-government-admits>

UK quietly cuts hopes for cleaner flying as third runway at Heathrow nears final decisions

The Cool Down – 15/09/2026

<https://www.thecooldown.com/green-tech/uk-government-cuts-electric-planes-safs/>

OTHER UKACCS MEMBER AIRPORTS

Belfast City

Belfast City Airport launches public consultation on draft £200 million investment proposals

Belfast City Airport – 14/09/2026

<https://www.belfastcityairport.com/News/Belfast-City-Airport-launches-public-consultation>

Belfast International

easyJet's Fearless Flyer course returns to Belfast International Airport

Belfast Live – 15/09/2026

<https://www.belfastlive.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/easyjets-fearless-flyer-course-returns-34619450>

Birmingham

Birmingham Airport welcomes record passenger numbers during August

Express & Star – 12/09/2026

<https://www.expressandstar.com/news/birmingham-airport-welcomes-record-passenger-numbers-during-august-9021252>

Birmingham Airport lands a double win at the Solihull Chamber Awards

Birmingham Airport – 15/09/2026

<https://www.birminghamairport.co.uk/latest-news/birmingham-airport-lands-a-double-win-at-the-solihull-chamber-awards/>

Bristol

Decision On Airport Expansion Postponed

Bristol 24/7 – 15/09/2026

<https://www.bristol247.com/climate/news-climate/decision-on-airport-expansion-postponed/>

Bristol Airport staff raise record £110,000 for hospice

North Somerset Times – 15/09/2026

<https://www.northsomersettimes.co.uk/news/26549559.bristol-airport-staff-raise-record-110-000-hospice/>

East Midlands

Aviation Minister hails importance of UK's largest dedicated air cargo hub during visit to East Midlands Airport

East Midlands Airport – 16/09/2026

<https://mediacentre.eastmidlandsairport.com/aviation-minister-hails-importance-of-uks-largest-dedicated-air-cargo-hub-during-visit-to-east-midlands-airport/>

East Midlands Airport records 4% rise in summer passengers

The Business Desk – 15/09/2026

<https://www.thebusinessdesk.com/eastmidlands/news/2114852-east-midlands-airport-records-4-rise-in-summer-passengers>

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Edinburgh

Edinburgh Airport baggage reclaim nightmare: Firms blame each other for lengthy waits

The Scotsman – 15/09/2026

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/transport/edinburgh-airport-baggage-reclaim-nightmare-firms-blame-each-other-for-lengthy-waits-9046695>

Farnborough

West Surrey 'intends' to add its weight against Farnborough Airport expansion as opposition mounts

Surrey Live – 09/09/2026

<https://www.getsurrey.co.uk/news/surrey-news/west-surreys-intention-add-weight-34594049>

Flexjet Opens First European Luxury Terminal at Farnborough Airport

Aero Xplorer – 10/09/2026

<https://aeroxplorer.com/articles/flexjet-opens-first-european-luxury-terminal-at-farnborough-airport>

Glasgow

Glasgow Airport workers pay takes off with new pay deal

Unite – 16/09/2026

<https://www.unitetheunion.org/news-events/news/2026/september/glasgow-airport-workers-pay-takes-off-with-new-pay-deal>

Glasgow Prestwick

Air China Cargo Launches New Weekly Service From Ürümqi Tianshan To Glasgow Prestwick

Air Cargo Week – 14/09/2026

<https://aircargoweek.com/air-china-cargo-launches-new-weekly-service-from-urumqi-tianshan-to-glasgow-prestwick/>

London City

Bombardier Global 8000 approved by CAA to land at London City Airport

Regional Gateway – 10/09/2026

<https://www.regionalgateway.net/bombardier-global-8000-approved-by-caa-to-land-at-london-city-airport/>

London City's Ultra-Short Runway Can Now Handle The World's Fastest Private Jet

Simple Flying – 10/09/2026

<https://simpleflying.com/bombardier-global-8000-london-city-airport-landing-approval/>

London Heathrow

Heathrow's third runway should only be approved if emissions are reduced, report advises

Independent – 16/09/2026

<https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/aviation-industry-heathrow-third-runway-expansion-b3051025.html>

Heathrow third runway expansion 'not compatible' with UK net zero target, government told

Travel Weekly – 16/09/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/heathrow-third-runway-expansion-not-compatible-with-uk-net-zero-target-government-told>

Heathrow warns that Neets crisis is putting third runway at risk

Recruits needed for £49bn expansion must start training now to meet demand in 2030s, airport says

Telegraph – 14/09/2026

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/business/2026/09/14/heathrow-faces-shortage-skilled-youth-to-build-third-runway/>

How much more could you pay to fly if Heathrow gets its third runway?

The UK's climate advisers say airport expansion could come with a hefty bill for passengers unless airlines pay for the emissions they create

Eastern Eye – 16/09/2026

<https://www.easterneye.biz/heathrow-expansion-flight-fares/>

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The Case Against a Third Runway: Why Labour Should Say No to Heathrow Expansion

Labour Hub – 15/09/2026

<https://labourhub.org.uk/2026/09/15/the-case-against-a-third-runway-why-labour-should-say-no-to-heathrow-expansion/>

'More noise, more pollution': Twickenham residents say Heathrow expansion 'illogical'

My London – 15/09/2026

<https://www.mylondon.news/news/transport/more-noise-more-pollution-twickenham-34618347>

Heathrow's Runways, Visualised

The Third Runway

<https://thethirdrunway.com>

Heathrow sees passenger numbers fall in peak summer holidays month

The Standard – 11/09/2026

<https://www.standard.co.uk/business/business-news/heathrow-london-istanbul-heidi-alexander-john-healey-b1296548.html>

Heathrow forced to freeze out over 40 airlines due to limited capacity

Travel Gossip – 11/09/2026

<https://travelgossip.co.uk/latestnews/heathrow-forced-to-freeze-out-over-40-airlines-due-to-limited-capacity/>

The world's most connected airport has been revealed – and it's no longer London Heathrow

CNTraveller – 16/09/2026

<https://www.cntraveller.com/article/the-worlds-most-connected-airports>

Economic Regulation of Heathrow Airport Limited: setting a holding price cap for 2027

CAA – 14/09/2026

<https://www.caa.co.uk/data-and-publications/publications/documents/content/cap3308/>

Heathrow passenger charges to rise from January

Travel Weekly – 14/09/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/heathrow-passenger-charges-to-rise-from-january>

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Muslim taxi drivers in plea for wudu space at Heathrow Airport

Hyphen – 16/09/2026

<https://hyphenonline.com/2026/09/16/muslim-black-cab-taxi-drivers-wudu-heathrow-airport/>

DiamondAir Heathrow lounge offers remote check-in away from terminals

Travelling for Business – 16/09/2026

<https://travellingforbusiness.co.uk/news/diamondair-heathrow-lounge-remote-check-in/>

London Luton

London Luton Airport launches new journey planner

ARGS – 14/09/2026

<https://airlinergs.com/london-luton-airport-launches-new-journey-planner/>

Major London airport raises drop off fees for second time in a year

Independent – 11/09/2026

<https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/london-luton-airport-drop-off-fees-b3048458.html>

London Southend

London Southend Airport takes top spot in latest UK punctuality rankings

International Airport Review – 15/09/2026

<https://www.internationalairportreview.com/london-southend-airport-rises-to-first-place-in-uk-caa-airport-punctuality-rankings/2136456.article>

London Stansted

Stansted stars as MAG airports report record summer

Travel Weekly – 16/09/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/stansted-stars-as-mag-airports-report-record-summer>

Manchester

Manchester Airport issues response after Terminal 3 named UK's worst-rated airport in 2026

Manchester Evening News – 10/09/2026

<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/manchester-airport-issues-response-after-34599883>

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Wetherspoon pub opens at Manchester Airport Terminal 2

Bury Times – 16/09/2026

<https://www.burytimes.co.uk/news/26555786.wetherspoon-pub-opens-manchester-airport-terminal-2/>

Teesside

Teesside International Airport signs MoU with Sary-Arka Airport to strengthen air cargo connectivity

Insider Media – 15/09/2026

<https://www.insidermedia.com/news/north-east/teesside-international-airport-signs-mou-with-sary-arka-airport-to-strengthen-air-cargo-connectivity>