# 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.*

**8 OCTOBER 2026**

## CURRENT NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS

**There are currently no relevant open national consultations.**

## PUBLICATIONS & INDUSTRY UPDATES

### Night flights in Europe: trends, impacts and policy responses: AEF recently produced a report on night flights for UECNA, the umbrella organisation for people overflown by aircraft across Europe. The report goes into detail on night flight restrictions and flight numbers at 31 different airports around Europe and the UK, as well as analysing the economic and health impacts of nighttime operations

**AEF – 05/10/2026**
https://www.aef.org.uk/2026/10/05/night-flights-in-europe/

### Position Paper on Aviation Noise: A call for keeping action

**Airport Regions Council**
https://www.airportregions.org/post/position-paper-on-aviation-noise-a-call-for-keeping-action

### Annual air passenger survey: Satisfaction remains high as more use public transport to get to airport

**CAA – 07/10/2026**
https://www.caa.co.uk/newsroom/news/annual-air-passenger-survey-satisfaction-remains-high-as-more-use-public-transport-to-get-to-airport/

### Altitude Live at DroneX: From drone operations to an integrated airspace

**NATS blog – 02/10/2026**

## GATWICK AIRPORT PRESS

### Businesses hope for increased footfall from Gatwick expansion

**BBC – 04/10/2026**
https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/videos/cqn73yvr144eo

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## General Headlines

### AEF supports call for independent ombudsman for airspace change: AEF is supporting 20 community groups calling for an independent ombudsman on airspace design decisions

**AEF – 06/10/2026**
https://www.aef.org.uk/2026/10/06/independent-ombudsman-for-airspace-change/

### Upcoming air traffic reforms will reduce delays, emissions

**ICAO – 05/10/2026**
https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/upcoming-air-traffic-reforms-reduce-delays-emissions-icao-clbje/

### Satisfaction with UK airports 'remains high' despite rise in passenger numbers [*see also publications section*]

**Travel Weekly – 07/10/2026**
https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/satisfaction-with-uk-airports-remains-high-despite-rise-in-passenger-numbers

### UK airport e-gates to switch to contactless technology

**Travel Weekly – 06/10/2026**
https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/uk-airport-e-gates-to-switch-to-contactless-technology

## Passenger news

### Andy Burnham makes major change to 'rip off' UK airline rules

**Echo – 01/10/2026**
https://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/andy-burnham-makes-major-change-34704269

### British Airways unveils new first class with private suites like 'luxury hotel' in the sky

**Independent – 07/10/2026**
https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/british-airways-first-business-class-cabin-reveal-b3062678.html

## Industry news

### Burnham 'offers hope' but Budget key, say industry leaders

**Travel Weekly – 07/10/2026**
https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/burnham-offers-hope-but-budget-key-say-industry-leaders

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## OTHER UKACCS MEMBER AIRPORTS

### Aberdeen

**Bristow and Aberdeen International Airport Hold Major Emergency Training Exercise**
**Scottish Tourism Alliance – 07/10/2026**
https://scottishtourismalliance.co.uk/2026/10/07/bristow-aberdeen-airport-emergency-exercise/

### Belfast City

**Lights, Camera, Action: Belfast City Airport Sponsorship Takes Cinemagic Film Festival to New Heights**
**Love Belfast – 30/09/2026**
https://lovebelfast.co.uk/cinemagic-film-festival-2026-belfast-city-airport/

### Birmingham

**From a wartime airfield to the UK's seventh-busiest airport**
**Birmingham Now – 04/10/2026**
https://www.birmingham-now.co.uk/news/26589587.wartime-airfield-uks-seventh-busiest-airport/

**easyJet launches brand-new direct flights from Birmingham Airport for 2027 – including an underrated Balkan gem**
**Secret Birmingham – 07/10/2026**
https://secretbirmingham.com/easyjet-flights-birmingham-airport-milan-tivat/

### Bristol

**Bristol Airport renews top-level carbon accreditation**
**The Business Desk – 04/10/2026**
https://www.thebusinessdesk.com/south-west/news/47260-bristol-airport-renews-top-level-carbon-accreditation

**Bristol Airport backs three aviation decarbonisation projects**
**Exmouth Journal – 04/10/2026**
https://www.exmouthjournal.co.uk/news/26606013.bristol-airport-backs-three-aviation-decarbonisation-projects/

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## East Midlands

### East Midlands Airport becomes the first UK airport with contactless eGate tech

**West Bridgford Wire - 06/10/2026**
https://westbridgfordwire.com/east-midlands-airport-becomes-the-first-uk-airport-with-contactless-egate/

## Edinburgh

### Edinburgh Airport unveils new brand identity reflecting its position as Scotland's busiest airport and future ambitions

**GTR Magazine – 07/10/2026**
https://www.gtrmag.com/blog/edinburgh-airport-unveils-new-brand-identity-reflecting-its-position-as-scotlands-busiest-airport-and-future-ambitions

## Glasgow

### Ryanair Celebrates 8 Million Passengers Through Glasgow Airport

**Renfrewshire Chamber – 07/10/2026**
https://www.renfrewshirechamber.com/ryanair-celebrates-8-million-passengers-through-glasgow-airport/

## Glasgow Prestwick

### Call for ministers to intervene over Prestwick flight appeal

**Ayr Advertiser – 03/10/2026**
https://www.ayradvertiser.com/news/26601870.call-ministers-intervene-glasgow-prestwick-flight-appeal/

## Leeds Bradford

### Leeds Bradford Airport workers set to strike

**Travel Gossip – 06/10/2026**
https://travelgossip.co.uk/latestnews/leeds-bradford-airport-workers-set-to-strike/

### Leeds Bradford Airport promises faster processing time with new passenger security lanes

**Travel Weekly – 05/10/2026**
https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/leeds-bradford-airport-promises-faster-processing-time-with-new-passenger-security-lanes

### Leeds Bradford Airport reiterates night operations proposals would replace movement cap with noise quota as support window extends to 15 October

**International Airport Review – 07/10/2026**
https://www.internationalairportreview.com/leeds-bradford-airport-says-night-flying-plans-modernise-noise-management-without-raising-overall-limit/2136684.article

## London City

### 14 charities and groups receive £38,000 from airport fund

**Newham Recorder – 05/10/2026**
https://www.newhamrecorder.co.uk/news/26609306.14-charities-groups-receive-38-000-airport-fund/

### Loganair to axe Isle of Man-London City route

**BBC – 30/09/2026**
https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/ckpq0rr97z41o

## London Heathrow

### Heathrow Airport warns third runway could be delayed by four years

**BBC – 26/09/2026**
https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/crx2zz401935o

### Conservatives vow to do 'whatever it takes' to build Heathrow third runway Prime Minister Andy Burnham is said to be maintaining an 'open mind' regarding expansion at the nation's busiest airport

**Independent – 04/10/2026**
https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/conservative-conference-heathrow-third-runway-b3061121.html

### London mayoral hopeful James Cleverly refuses to back Kemi Badenoch's full support for Heathrow third runway

**The Standard – 06/10/2026**
https://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/heathrow-flights-third-runway-conservatives-james-cleverly-sadiq-khan-b1299641.html

### Surinder Arora pushes for timely Heathrow expansion

**Eastern Eye – 01/10/2026**
https://www.easterneye.biz/surinder-arora-2677965630/

### Response to potential Heathrow expansion delays
**Heathrow Reimagined – 05/10/2026**
https://www.heathrow-reimagined.com/campaign-news/campaign-statement-response-to-potential-heathrow-expansion-delays/

### Heathrow Wilson James workers secure inflation busting pay rise after unionising
**Unite – 07/10/2026**
https://www.unitetheunion.org/news-events/news/2026/october/heathrow-wilson-james-workers-secure-inflation-busting-pay-rise-after-unionising

### British Airways to build massive Heathrow lounge
**Inside Flyer – 07/10/2026**
https://www.insideflyer.com/posts/british-airways-to-build-massive-heathrow-lounge/

### 18-Hour Flights: Heathrow's 11 New Ultra-Long Nonstop Routes Revealed
**Simple Flying – 07/10/2026**
https://simpleflying.com/18-hour-flights-heathrows-11-new-ultra-long-nonstop-routes/

### Grey Goose Berry Rouge makes GTR debut at London Heathrow
**TR Business – 07/10/2026**
https://www.trbusiness.com/product-news/wine-spirits/grey-goose-berry-rouge-makes-gtr-debut-at-london-heathrow/284163

## London Luton

### London Luton pushes public transport with journey planner and £2 bus ticket
**Travel Mole – 05/10/2026**
https://travelmole.com/news/london-luton-pushes-public-transport

## London Southend

### Southend Airport names Sharmeen Divan as interim CEO
**Thurrock Gazette – 01/10/2026**
https://www.thurrockgazette.co.uk/news/26599451.southend-airport-names-sharmeen-divan-interim-ceo/

### New proposed bus routes linking Southend Airport backed
**Echo – 07/10/2026**
https://www.echo-news.co.uk/news/26612316.new-proposed-bus-routes-linking-southend-airport-backed/

### Southend Airport parking fines reach £1,600 for taxi firm
**Romford Recorder – 01/10/2026**
https://www.romfordrecorder.co.uk/news/26596222.taxi-firm-hit-1-600-southend-airport-parking-fines/

## London Stansted

### Priti Patel declares Stansted education centre top of the class
**Business Weekly – 06/10/2026**
https://www.businessweekly.co.uk/posts/priti-patel-declares-stansted-education-centre-top-of-the-class

### London Stansted's Aerozone celebrates 30,000 visitors
**Braintree and Witham Times – 06/10/2026**
https://www.braintreeandwithamtimes.co.uk/news/26612083.london-stansteds-aerozone-celebrates-30-000-visitors/

### Picture of the week: London Stansted Airport's on-site solar farm is now fully operational, supplying up to 12.8 MW of renewable power directly to the airport network
**International Airport Review – 02/10/2026**
https://www.internationalairportreview.com/picture-of-the-week-london-stansteds-on-site-solar-farm-becomes-fully-operational-with-128-mw-of-ac-capacity/2136639.article

## Manchester

### Manchester Airport bosses say they need to move key motorway road
**Manchester Evening News – 01/10/2026**
https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/manchester-airport-bosses-say-need-34697346

### Manchester Airport Station to Receive £115m Upgrade in Major Boost for Rail Connectivity
**Rail Technology – 07/10/2026**
https://www.railtechnologymagazine.com/articles/manchester-airport-station-receive-ps115m-upgrade-major-boost-rail-connectivity

### Fact-checked: The truth behind claims planes full of migrants are landing at Manchester Airport on secret nighttime flight

**Manchester Evening News – 06/10/2026**
https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/fact-checked-are-planes-full-34723215

## Newcastle

### Newcastle Airport crowned Airport of the Year at prestigious Aviation Industry Awards UK

**Routes Online – 06/10/2026**
https://www.routesonline.com/airports/8267/newcastle-international-airport/news/299667013/newcastle-airport-crowned-airport-of-the-year-at-prestigious-aviation-industry-awards-uk/

## Southampton

### Southampton Airport confirms new operations chief ahead of new route launch

**Travel Weekly – 06/10/2026**
https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/southampton-airport-confirms-new-operations-chief-ahead-of-new-route-launch