# 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.*

**29 OCTOBER 2026**

## CURRENT NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS

### Heathrow Airport 2026 public consultation on expansion
**Closing date: 22/12/2026**
https://www.heathrow.com/expansion/consultation

## PUBLICATIONS & INDUSTRY UPDATES

### EASA Annual Safety Review 2026: Europe's Aviation Safety in 2025
**The Aviation Hub – 26/10/2026**
https://theaviationhub.co.uk/easa-annual-safety-review-2026/

### Super Terminal Expo 2026 to bring airport CEOs, investors and low altitude economy exhibitors to AsiaWorld-Expo in Hong Kong from 3 to 5 November
**International Airport Review – 26/10/2026**
https://www.internationalairportreview.com/super-terminal-expo-2026-brings-global-aviation-leaders-to-hong-kong-in-november/2136844.article

## GATWICK AIRPORT LIMITED MEDIA RELEASES

### From temples to turquoise waters: new British Airways services connect London Gatwick with Sri Lanka and Barbados
**27/10/2026**
https://www.mediacentre.gatwickairport.com/news/from-temples-to-turquoise-waters-new-british-airways-services-connect-london-gatwick-with-sri-lanka-and-barbados-b2580-40f32.html

## GATWICK AIRPORT PRESS

### Gatwick Airport adds new route to Asia with British Airways
**The Argus – 27/10/2026**
https://www.theargus.co.uk/news/26674219.gatwick-airport-adds-new-route-asia-british-airways/

# GATCOM WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

### London Gatwick to bring airport advertising operations in-house
**DFNI – 26/10/2026**
https://www.dfnionline.com/latest-news/london-gatwick-to-bring-airport-advertising-operations-in-house-26-10-2026/

## General Headlines

### Treasury rejects industry pleas to hold down Air Passenger Duty
**Travel Weekly – 28/10/2026**
https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/treasury-rejects-industry-pleas-to-hold-down-air-passenger-duty

### Airline competition and airport capacity driving air fares, ACI says
**Regional Gateway – 26/10/2026**
https://www.regionalgateway.net/airline-competition-and-airport-capacity-driving-air-fares-aci-says/

### Analysis: Rising inflation and higher fares will test travel's resilience
**Travel Weekly – 23/10/2026**
https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/analysis-rising-inflation-and-higher-fares-will-test-travels-resilience

### Geopolitical turbulence complicates airlines' flight paths for 2027
**Think – 28/10/2026**
https://think.ing.com/articles/geopolitical-turbulence-complicates-airlines-flight-paths-for-2027/

### Storm Boelo: What the Aviation Disruption Tells Us About UK Weather Risk
**The Aviation Hub – 25/10/2026**
https://theaviationhub.co.uk/storm-boelo-aviation-disruption-analysis/

### European pilots report grabbing 'microsleeps' due to fatigue while flying
**Travel Weekly – 26/10/2026**
https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/european-pilots-report-grabbing-microsleeps-due-to-fatigue-while-flying

## Passenger news

### AI 'changing how passengers plan travel', annual IATA passenger poll shows
**Travel Weekly – 28/10/2026**
https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/ai-changing-how-passengers-plan-travel-annual-iata-passenger-poll-shows

# GATCOM WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

### Economy Legroom Ranked: The Airlines Offering Most Space in 2026
**The Aviation Hub – 26/10/2026**
https://theaviationhub.co.uk/economy-legroom-ranked-airlines-most-seat-pitch/

## Industry news

### Regulator launches lithium battery safety checklist ahead of busy half-term travel period
**CAA – 22/10/2026**
https://www.caa.co.uk/newsroom/news/regulator-launches-lithium-battery-safety-checklist-ahead-of-busy-half-term-travel-period/

## Environmental news

### UK 'a long way' from where it needs to be on climate, aviation leaders told
**Travel Weekly – 26/10/2026**
https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/uk-a-long-way-from-where-it-needs-to-be-on-climate-aviation-leaders-told

### Zero emission flight demonstrator competition: successful projects
**DfT – 26/10/2026**
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/zero-emission-flight-demonstrator-competition-successful-projects

## OTHER UKACCS MEMBER AIRPORTS

## Belfast City

### Belfast City Airport Ignite Youth Leadership Programme Returns
**Business Eye – 27/10/2026**
https://www.businesseye.co.uk/news/belfast-city-airport-ignite-youth-leadership-programme-returns/

### Belfast City Airport celebrates Northern Irish spirits with World Duty Free
**DFNI – 25/10/2026**
https://www.dfnionline.com/latest-news/belfast-city-airport-celebrates-northern-irish-spirits-with-world-duty-free-26-10-2026/

# GATCOM WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

## Belfast International

### The two new easyJet flight routes taking off from Belfast International Airport

**Belfast Live – 23/10/2026**
https://www.belfastlive.co.uk/news/belfast-news/two-new-easyjet-flight-routes-34807066

## Birmingham

### Inaugural EGYPTAIR flight to Cairo takes off from Birmingham

**Birmingham Airport – 25/10/2026**
https://www.birminghamairport.co.uk/latest-news/inaugural-egyptair-flight-to-cairo-takes-off-from-birmingham/

## Bristol

### Bristol Airport's free car park moved as major works start

**Bristol Live – 27/10/2026**
https://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/bristol-news/bristol-airports-free-car-park-11213956

## East Midlands

### East Midlands Airport cargo builds on a record year with even more growth

**Derbyshire Times – 25/10/2026**
https://www.derbyshiretimes.co.uk/your-world/east-midlands-airport-cargo-builds-on-a-record-year-with-even-more-growth-9306144

## Edinburgh

### Lerwick councillor tells of Edinburgh Airport 'fiasco' after Loganair passenger in crutches forced to 'hop' up stairs

**The Shetland Times – 27/10/2026**
https://www.shetlandtimes.co.uk/news/councillor-tells-of-edinburgh-airport-fiasco-after-loganai-448588/

## Glasgow Prestwick

### Expansion of Prestwick Airport parking permit scheme moves ahead after resident backing

**Sky News – 23/10/2026**
https://news.stv.tv/west-central/expansion-of-prestwick-airport-parking-permit-scheme-moves-ahead-after-resident-backing

# GATCOM WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

## Leeds Bradford

### £65m Leeds Bradford Airport rail station to be debated
**West Leeds Dispatch – 27/10/2026**
https://westleedsdispatch.com/65m-leeds-bradford-airport-rail-station-to-be-debated/

## Liverpool

### You can now fly VIP business class on Jet 2 from Liverpool airport
**Lancashire Post – 28/10/2026**
https://www.lep.co.uk/travel/travel-news/you-can-now-fly-vip-business-class-on-jet-2-from-liverpool-airport-9312869

## London City

### London City Airport selects Amadeus for tech transformation
**Airport Suppliers – 26/10/2026**
https://www.airport-suppliers.com/airport_press_release/london-city-airport-selects-amadeus-for-tech-transformation/

### Nike turns London City Airport runway into a 5,000-runner night race
**Content Grip - 28/10/2026**
https://www.contentgrip.com/nike-london-airport-night-race/

## London Heathrow

### Heathrow consultation opens on 3,500m third runway
### Heathrow's new third-runway consultation runs to 22 December, with proposals for a 3,500m runway, terminal changes, M25 works and property policies
**Planning Geek – 27/10/2026**
https://www.planninggeek.co.uk/2026/heathrow-consultation-2026/

### Revisions made to Heathrow Airport's 750,000 flight expansion plan that would reroute M25 and M4
**Get Surrey- 28/10/2026**
https://www.getsurrey.co.uk/news/surrey-news/revisions-made-heathrow-airports-750000-34828629

# GATCOM WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

## Heathrow's third runway plans could see flights soar to 750,000 a year

**Farnham Herald – 28/10/2026**

https://www.farnhamherald.com/news/heathrows-third-runway-plans-could-see-flights-soar-to-750000-a-year-967942

## Hounslow Council pledges scrutiny as Heathrow consultation opens

**London Herald – 28/10/2026**

https://hounslowherald.com/hounslow-council-pledges-scrutiny-as-heathrow-consultation-opens-p34607-95.htm

## Heathrow risks 'falling behind' rivals without third runway expansion

**Travel Weekly – 22/10/2026**

https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/heathrow-risks-falling-behind-rivals-without-third-runway-expansion

## Airports from every UK nation and region confirm support for Heathrow expansion as RABA Group and Heathrow sign domestic connectivity MoU

**International Airport Review – 27/10/2026**

https://www.internationalairportreview.com/uk-regional-airports-back-heathrow-third-runway-as-raba-group-signs-new-memorandum-of-understanding/2136853.article

## Updated statement of approach: Heathrow expansion national policy statement

**DfT – 23/10/2026**

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dft-engagement-on-the-heathrow-expansion-consultation/updated-statement-of-approach-heathrow-expansion-national-policy-statement

## Heathrow's Revenue Problem: Why the World's Busiest Hub Isn't Thriving

**The Aviation Hub – 22/10/2026**

https://theaviationhub.co.uk/heathrow-revenue-problem-airport-economics-analysis/

## Delta Heathrow relocation move means passengers 'will pay the price'

**Independent – 28/10/2026**

https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/delta-heathrow-relocation-virgin-atlantic-b3074777.html

## Virgin Atlantic 'considering options' over Heathrow plan to shift partner Delta out of shared terminal

**Travel Weekly – 28/10/2026**

https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/virgin-atlantic-considering-options-over-heathrow-plan-to-shift-partner-delta-out-of-shared-terminal

# GATCOM WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

### Soft retail growth at Heathrow in 9M 2026 defies traffic decline
**TR Business – 26/10/2026**
https://www.trbusiness.com/regional-news/europe/soft-retail-growth-at-heathrow-in-9m-2026-defies-traffic-decline/285114

### Drone 'the size of four toasters' seen hovering over British Airways plane after Heathrow take-off
**Independent – 26/10/2026**
https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/british-airways-flight-drone-heathrow-airport-b3073408.html

### Adobe to Supply Agentic AI to Heathrow Airport, Personalized Service for 84.5 Million Annual Passengers
**Biggo Finance – 27/10/2026**
https://finance.biggo.com/news/882a934c-2c4f-40f1-a7ab-02e93b5fb25f

## London Luton

### Luton airport partners with National Express to offer £2 coach fares
**Luton Today – 22/10/2026**
https://www.lutontoday.co.uk/your-world/luton-airport-partners-with-national-express-to-offer-ps2-coach-fares-9303825

## London Stansted

### Hertford and Stortford MP Josh Dean praises 'fantastic facility right on our doorstep' on visit to Stansted Airport's Employment and Skills Academy
**Bishop's Stortford Independent – 27/10/2026**
https://www.bishopsstortfordindependent.co.uk/news/mp-praises-fantastic-training-and-education-facility-right-9488790/

### Long queues after power surge at Stansted Airport
**BBC – 25/10/2026**
https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c64g14481n7qo

# GATCOM WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

## Manchester

### Manchester Airport gets green light to expand Terminal 3 departure lounge by over a third, with completion due in 2028

**International Airport Review – 26/10/2026**
https://www.internationalairportreview.com/manchester-airport-approves-terminal-3-departure-lounge-expansion-of-more-than-a-third/2136838.article

## Teesside

### Teesside Airport plans solar power and hydrogen network

**The Nothern Echo – 28/10/2026**
https://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/26672241.teesside-airport-plans-solar-power-hydrogen-network/