

Mrs Anne Main M.P.
St Albans



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Neil Thompson
Operations Director
London Luton Airport Operations Limited
Navigation House
Airport Way
Luton
Bedfordshire
LU2 9LY

28 September 2017

Dear Mr Thompson,

Re: Post Implementation Review Response

I am writing to you ahead of the CAA's PIR review of the RNAV route used at Luton Airport. I wanted to share some concerns raised by my constituents about the impact this route has had and to explain some of my concerns about the RNAV route since its introduction in 2015.

The increase in aircraft noise complaints sent to me by constituents since RNAV's introduction has been overwhelming. On a daily basis I read of the frustrations felt by those that live directly under the flight path who now have a heavy concentration of aircraft over their homes, a problem many did not have to the same extent when they first chose to live in that area of north St Albans.

I believe the vast majority of complainants who have contacted my office do not expect to have no aircraft noise at all. They understand the need for air traffic and many of those people use Luton airport regularly, however they often cite fairness as the purpose of their letters to me. Residents, rightly in my opinion, do not feel it is fair that all aircraft departing on the RNAV route fly over a small concentrated area north of the city where they live. They feel like the burden is not shared at all because of this route and their lives are adversely effected for the worse as a result.

Hearing of the impact constant aircraft noise has had on some resident's mental and physical health has been alarming. Lack of sleep and endless noise have made residents extremely unhappy. I

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believe this must be given careful consideration during the CAA's review of the success of this route.

Furthermore, I understand the purpose of the RNAV route was to reduce the residents overflowed to around 3,000 people which is, in theory, beneficial. However, the burden of aircraft noise should not have to be shouldered solely by those living within the narrow corridor at all times. I would be grateful for consideration to be given to alleviating some of the noise at different times for these residents. Respite periods are fair and needed so long as this route is in place. I would also welcome the continued work on making the aircraft ascend and descend quicker to minimise noise for residents.

I look forward to hearing the findings of the CAA review and I hope that due consideration is given to the many thousands of complaints that have been raised about the RNAV route in the last couple of years. I believe there needs to be fundamental changes made to the RNAV route going forward to help improve the situation for residents under the flight path.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anne Main".

Anne Main MP