

# YOUR LONDON AIRPORT

## *Gatwick*

17 APRIL 2014

To:

Kwasi Kwarteng  
Conservative candidate for Spelthorne

Sam Gyimah  
Conservative candidate for East Surrey

Crispin Blunt  
Conservative candidate for Reigate

Dear Gentlemen,

Thank you for your letter of April 13. I am sorry that you feel that our engagement with residents around Heathrow is evidence of a disregard for our local communities, as nothing could be further from the truth. As an airport, we understand very well that our business affects the neighbourhood around us, sometimes positively, sometimes negatively, and that we need to establish a relationship that allows us to be good corporate citizens within the community in which we live.

To that end we have been engaged in a wide discussion with people around our airport, through our business groups, through our consultative committee, GATCOM, and directly with parish councils, amenity groups and with individuals from the locality. And it is notable that, unlike Heathrow, Gatwick carried out last year an extensive and detailed local consultation on its plans for expansion, I hope that you will also recognise the efforts that we have made to keep our local MPs involved in these discussions as well.

Our discussions with our local communities have underlined the fact that noise, and in particular people newly affected by noise, forms a very important aspect of the debate on airport expansion in the South East. We do not accept that it is “scare tactics” to draw to everyone’s attention a key issue that needs to be understood by all those affected by the outcome of that debate. We do not try to pretend that airport expansion, wherever it happens, will mean less noise for the community, and our campaign focus on the issue reflects that; in fact, we believe that the compensation we are offering to those who would be most acutely affected by noise from a new runway at Gatwick and our noise insulation scheme are among the most progressive in Europe.

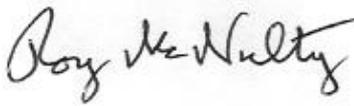
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Our own polling suggests that a majority of residents in West Sussex and in Kent support a second runway at Gatwick, and independent polling by local newspapers around the airport supports that view, notwithstanding the points you have raised. Our polling of London residents also suggests that Gatwick is their preferred outcome in this debate.

I would be very happy to discuss any of this in more detail, should you wish.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Roy McNulty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R' and 'M'.

**Sir Roy McNulty**  
Chairman