

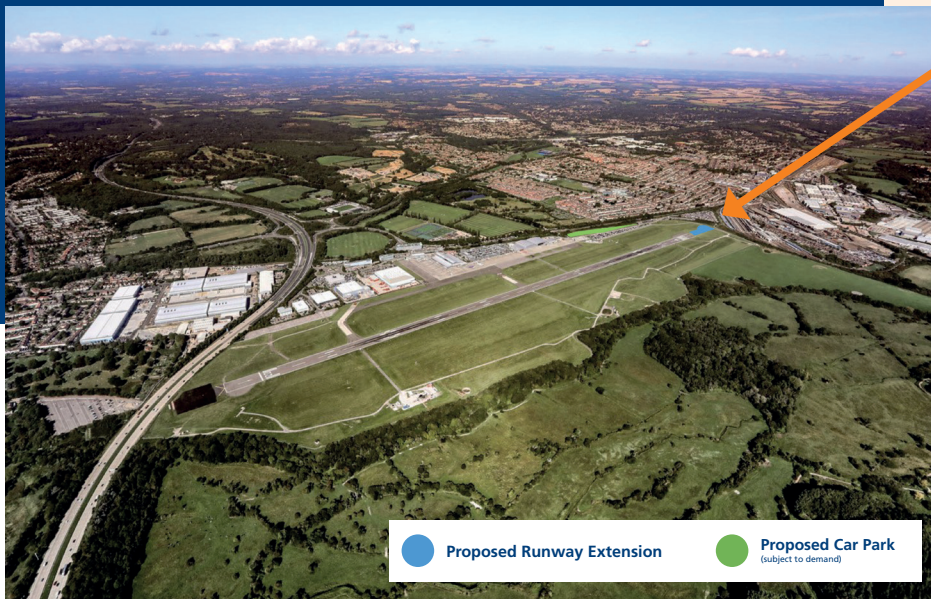
# Southampton Airport Proposed Runway Extension

MYTH BUSTERS



## Supporting Jobs, Supporting People, Supporting the Region, Supporting Communities and Supporting Sustainability – Support Southampton Airport

In November 2019 Southampton Airport submitted a planning application to Eastleigh Borough Council seeking permission for a 164-metre extension to the northern end of our runway. It is a short extension – equivalent to one and a half football pitches – that remains fully in our current boundaries, but is absolutely critical to our viability as a regional airport. We would like to share the facts with you.



### IS SOUTHAMPTON AIRPORT PROPOSING TO EXPAND?

No - this is no longer about growth but survival of the airport. Our plans will not lead to expansion of the airport, the work will all be fully contained within our current boundary.

**WHAT IS HAPPENING?** Southampton Airport proposes to convert the blue area of grass within its boundary into tarmac and provide 470 new car parking spaces.

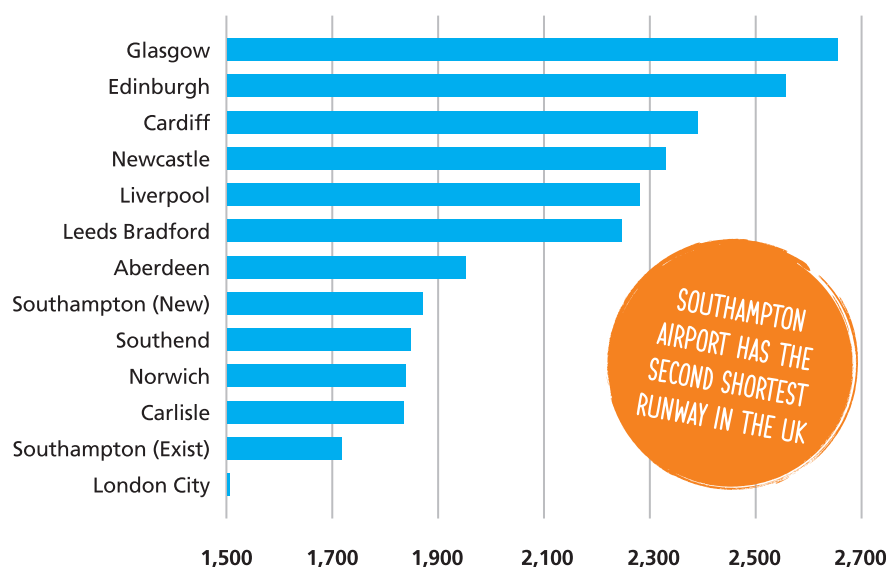
**WHY?** This will secure the future of Southampton Airport.

**HOW?** Flybe's fleet of aircraft has been broken up and dispersed across the world. Well-known airlines are desperate to fly from Southampton Airport but cannot as the runway is too short.

The airport must adapt to meet modern fleet requirements. Although aircraft such as Boeing 737's and Airbus 320's have operated at Southampton, due to the runway length they are limited to the distance they can fly and the number of passengers on board making operations uneconomical.

This needs additional runway length to the north, which will allow such aircraft to reach destinations previously served by Flybe.

### Regional Commercial Runways (Metres)



### WHAT WILL IT FACILITATE?

- This will facilitate the destinations and routes that the region's large local catchment population want to fly to - for business and leisure.
- 3.1m passengers originate from the inner catchment area of Southampton Airport (where passengers are deemed to be likely to choose to fly from Southampton airport if services were available) travelling to destinations served by Southampton, 36% using London.
- 58% of passengers within the inner catchment area for Southampton Airport would still travel to London to fly in the absence of a service from Southampton Airport.
- That means 1.984m passengers flew from Southampton from our local region.
- Southampton's closure would see 1.798m passengers from our region now travelling to London to fly.



- Southampton airport is now carbon neutral and has superb public transport connections in particular to rail - 99 steps train to plane.
- Driving to another UK airport such as Gatwick for the same flight to Bordeaux creates an additional 22 kg of carbon, a 25% increase in carbon emissions due to the additional road mileage as well as creating impacts on road congestion, air and noise due to the additional 16,077 miles travelled by car.

## WHAT WILL IT IMPACT?

**Will any ecology be impacted?** Only the loss of airfield grass, but new enhanced ecological provision is proposed at the airport edges.

**Will any trees have to be cut down?** No

**Will the number of flights increase?**

No - forecasts show the number of flights will only get back to 2018 levels by 2034.

The incidence of noise from planes experienced in gardens and outdoor spaces will therefore be no more frequent than it was in 2018.

Homes will be insulated from increased noise in line with government policy where and when necessary.

**Will the runway extension lead to any air quality threshold exceedances?** No

## HOW WILL THIS BE SECURED?

**How will expansion be restricted to this level?** A cap will be placed on the airport by Eastleigh Borough Council.

## What stage is the planning application at now:

Over the last few months, we and the council have carefully reviewed all the comments received during the initial consultation. Recognising this feedback - and following a reassessment of the airport's operations in light of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic - we have now **submitted additional information to support the application and provide further clarifications**. In response, Eastleigh Borough Council is now re-consulting with the community.

All of the additional information and clarification we have provided is available for you to view on Eastleigh Borough Council's dedicated web page - <https://www.eastleigh.gov.uk/planning-and-building/southampton-airport-planning-application> - which you can also find using the application reference **F/19/86707**.

## What are the benefits?



It will support our region's economic growth.



It will allow people to avoid driving to airports further afield, reducing carbon.



It will enable the potential for job creation by 2034 of 2400 jobs, direct and indirect with significant regional economic benefits.



Aviation is associated with high productivity jobs, with the average employee in air transport services generating a GVA of £84,000 per annum. This is 60% higher than the whole economy average in the UK.



During the Covid pandemic the airport provided a crucial lifeline to Southampton Hospital and remains a vital business and community link for thousands of people, not just those employed at the airport.

## If the extension is refused

The airport cannot sustain the business on the current level of flights able to fly from Southampton. The airport employed just under 1,000 employees pre-flyBE collapse, but has already had to lay off a third. If the airport closes, the remaining circa 600 jobs are at risk.

This excludes the taxi drivers, bus drivers, local hotels and all of the businesses that rely on the airport.

- REFUSAL WILL NOT STOP THE FLIGHTS, BUT YOU WILL HAVE TO TRAVEL TO FAR OFF AIRPORTS
- CARBON EMISSIONS WILL RISE BECAUSE OF THE EXTRA ROAD TRIPS REQUIRED TO REACH THOSE AIRPORTS
- THE AIRPORT IS NOT GROWING BUT ADAPTING TO MODERN FLEET REQUIREMENTS. THESE PLANES ARE MORE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY
- THE AIRPORT HAS BEEN THE LIFELINE FOR MANY PEOPLE DURING THE PANDEMIC PROVIDING ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL SERVICES

**A VOTE FOR SOUTHAMPTON IS A VOTE FOR THE REGION'S SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL FUTURE.**