

Scrutiny Committee

9 January 2023



Working in partnership with **Eastbourne Homes**

Time and venue:

6.00 pm in the Court Room - Town Hall, Eastbourne

Membership:

Councillor Kshama Shore (Chair); Councillors: Steve Wallis, Josh Babarinde, Jane Lamb, Md. Harun Miah, Amanda Morris, Hugh Parker and Robert Smart

Quorum: 2

Published: Thursday, 29 December 2022

Agenda

1 Election of a Deputy Chair

Nominations are sought for a Deputy Chair of the Scrutiny Committee.

2 Apologies for absence / declaration of substitute members

3 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs) by members as required under Section 31 of the Localism Act and of other interests as required by the Code of Conduct

4 Questions by members of the public

On matters not already included on the agenda and for which prior written notice has been given (total time allowed 15 minutes).

5 Urgent items of business

The Chairman to notify the Committee of any items of urgent business to be added to the agenda.

6 Right to address the meeting/order of business

The Chairman to report any requests received to address the Committee from a member of the public or from a Councillor in respect of an item listed below and to invite the Committee to consider taking such items at the commencement of the meeting.

7 Scrutiny of Gatwick Airport's Carbon Neutral accreditation and the effect of the development of the Northern Runway on Eastbourne Borough Council's Carbon Neutral pledge for 2030 (Pages 5 - 10)

8 Date of the next meeting

To note that the next scheduled meeting of the Scrutiny Committee is scheduled to be held on the 6 February 2023 in the Court Room, Town Hall, Eastbourne commencing at 6:00pm.

Information for the public

Accessibility:

Please note that the venue for this meeting is wheelchair accessible and has an induction loop to help people who are hearing impaired. This agenda and accompanying reports are published on the Council's website in PDF format which means you can use the "read out loud" facility of Adobe Acrobat Reader.

Filming/Recording:

This meeting may be filmed, recorded or broadcast by any person or organisation. Anyone wishing to film or record must notify the Chair prior to the start of the meeting. Members of the public attending the meeting are deemed to have consented to be filmed or recorded, as liability for this is not within the Council's control.

Public participation:

Please contact Democratic Services (see end of agenda) for the relevant deadlines for registering to speak on a matter which is listed on the agenda if applicable.

Information for Councillors

Disclosure of interests:

Members should declare their interest in a matter at the beginning of the meeting.

In the case of a disclosable pecuniary interest (DPI), if the interest is not registered (nor the subject of a pending notification) details of the nature of the interest must be reported to the meeting by the member and subsequently notified in writing to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days.

If a member has a DPI or other prejudicial interest he/she must leave the room when the matter is being considered (unless he/she has obtained a dispensation).

Councillor right of address:

Councillors wishing to address the meeting who are not members of the committee must notify the Chairman and Democratic Services in advance (and no later than immediately prior to the start of the meeting).

Democratic Services

For any further queries regarding this agenda or notification of apologies please contact Democratic Services.

Email: committees@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk

Telephone: 01323 410000

Council website: <https://www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk/>

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Report to:	Scrutiny Committee
Date:	09 January 2023
Title:	Scrutiny of Gatwick Airport's Carbon Neutral accreditation and the effect of the development of the Northern Runway on Eastbourne Borough Council's Carbon Neutral pledge for 2030
Report of:	Simon Russell (Head of Democratic Services (and Deputy Monitoring Officer))
Ward(s):	All
Purpose of report:	The report provides the background to the request for a meeting with Gatwick Airport representatives.
Officer recommendation(s):	a) That the Scrutiny Committee consider the issues raised during discussion and provide a response to the Full Council.
Reasons for recommendations:	To respond to the request from the Full Council and to fulfil the Scrutiny Committee's role in looking at policy development.
Contact Officer(s):	Name: Nick Peeters Post title: Committee Officer (Democratic Services) E-mail: nick.peeters@lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk Telephone number: 07935085770

1 Introduction

- 1.1 At a meeting of the Scrutiny Committee on the 10 October 2022 Members resolved to arrange an additional meeting of the Committee and invite representatives from Gatwick Airport and other relevant stakeholders to attend. This followed a Full Council meeting on the 20 July 2022, where the following motion was resolved:

'Eastbourne Borough Council notes its previous support for a second runway for Gatwick Airport in 2013. Since then, Eastbourne Borough Council has pledged to be Carbon Neutral by 2030. Eastbourne Borough Council further notes the UK Government has committed to increase airplane capacity and a new runway located at either Heathrow or Gatwick. Eastbourne Borough Council understands that Gatwick Airport has claimed to be the first carbon neutral London airport in 2017 and states on their website that they are committed to net zero direct emissions by 2040.'

- 1.2 The purpose of the meeting with Gatwick Airport Ltd representatives is to consider the Airport's Carbon Neutral accreditation, its plans for development of a Northern Runway and the impact of this on the Council's Carbon Neutral 2030 – A Plan for Action. The Scrutiny Committee will respond to the Full Council and provide a recommendation.
- 1.2 It is recognised that Gatwick Airport's level 3+ Airport Carbon Accreditation is based on direct emissions '*Direct emissions come from sources that are owned or controlled by the reporting entity*'. The amended motion from Full Council expects, any discussion with Gatwick Airport representatives to include both passenger journeys to and from the airport and fuel emissions. Therefore, the main area of focus should be the use of the Northern Runway and its resultant increase in traffic, and how this may affect Eastbourne Borough Council's ability to fulfil the pledge to be Carbon Neutral by 2030.

2 Background

- 2.1 At a meeting of the Full Council on 18 September 2013, the following motion was resolved: 'That this Council supports - in principle - Gatwick Airport Ltd.'s proposals to build a second runway at Gatwick Airport, recognising this as a significant opportunity for growth and prosperity for Eastbourne, recognising also the environmental issues that may arise, and the need to manage these sensitively'.
- 2.2 A global issue in 2013, the increasing levels of CO2 emissions and continued global warming has led many organisations to declare 'climate emergencies/crisis'. In July 2019 a Climate Emergency Declaration was made by Eastbourne Borough Council at the Full Council meeting, and in December of 2022, the Cabinet approved the 'Eastbourne Carbon Neutral 2030' Annual Update, including an update of the Eastbourne Carbon Neutral Action Plan.
- 2.3 Previous work on the issue of a Northern runway has been undertaken, most notably Consultants were engaged at the Development Consent Order (Statutory Consultation) stage by many of the authorities that would potentially be impacted by the development.

3 Scope of the meeting

- 3.1 A number of questions were sent to Gatwick Airport Ltd ahead of the meeting on the 9 January for consideration (appendix A). The representatives attending will be given an opportunity to respond and Committee members will have the opportunity to ask follow up questions. The views of invited stakeholders attending will also be heard. Only the elected members of the Scrutiny Committee will be allowed to ask questions and vote at the end of the session.
- 3.2 The Scrutiny Committee is asked to take part in the discussion and provide a response to Full Council.

4 Financial appraisal

- 4.1 The Scrutiny Committee is an advisory committee and there are no obvious financial implications associated with this report. However, any decisions that are made either now or in the future must consider if they will require any resourcing and how that will be funded. Any costs must be kept within the Council's existing budgets.

5 Legal implications

- 5.1 The Scrutiny Committee is an advisory committee and there are no direct legal implications as a result of this report.

6 Risk management implications

- 6.1 The Scrutiny Committee is an advisory committee and there are no direct risk management implications as a result of the report.

7 Equality analysis

- 7.1 The Scrutiny Committee is an advisory committee and there is no direct impact on equality or fairness as a result of this report.

8 Environmental sustainability implications

- 8.1 The Scrutiny Committee is an advisory committee and there are no direct environmental or sustainability implications as a result of the report. However, the Committee will be expected to make a recommendation to Full Council on in respect of the Council's continued support of Gatwick Airport's development of a Northern Runway. This fulfils the Committee's role in scrutinising policy development.

9 Appendices

- Appendix A – Questions sent to Gatwick Airport Ltd

10 Background papers

The background papers used in compiling this report were as follows:

- [Agenda for Eastbourne Borough Council Full Council on Wednesday, 20th July, 2022, 6.00 pm \(lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk\)](#)

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Gatwick Airport – effect of the development of a Northern Runway on Eastbourne Borough Council’s Carbon Neutrality Pledge

Introduction by Councillor Shore OBE, Chair of Eastbourne Borough Council’s Scrutiny Committee

As a result of a recent motion debated at Full Council, Eastbourne Borough Council has asked its Scrutiny Committee to consider Gatwick Airport’s claims of “committing to net zero direct emissions by 2040”. In 2013, the Borough Council supported a second runway for Gatwick airport. Since then, Eastbourne Borough Council has pledged to be Carbon Neutral by 2030.

The main question for the Council remains that, the use of Northern Runway and its resultant increase in traffic, may affect the Council’s ability to fulfil the pledge to be Carbon Neutral by 2030.

Review of literature (both from Gatwick Airport Ltd and other sources) shows widely different viewpoints, often polarised views. Our task is to gather up to date evidence at this meeting which will enable the Committee to come to an agreed statement from this Council.

While we want to fully understand the implications of the Northern Runway project – we will focus on how Gatwick Airport will achieve net zero direct emissions by 2040 given the increased flights and the effect of increased emissions on the Council’s Carbon Neutral pledge

Questions:

1. What is the percentage of emissions from Aviation compared to total emissions?
2. What is the percentage of Gatwick’s emissions compared to UK wide?
3. What is the percentage of UK aviation emissions compared to the World?
4. What does the carbon neutrality measurement include – is it a globally agreed formula?
5. Are aircraft fuel emissions included in your calculations (take-off and landing)?
6. Are passenger journeys to and from the airport included in the calculations?
7. How many flights are there currently and what is your expected increase when operating at maximum capacity?
8. Will the Utility energy level for running an airport increase?
9. The carbon impact on goods being used/consumed within the airport on a daily basis (i.e. food/clothing/tax free shopping)?
10. What are the total carbon production emissions from the freight being handled at Gatwick?

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