

## **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?