

# Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign **GACC**

Campaign Office  
Stan Hill  
Charlwood  
Surrey RH6 OEP

01293 863 369  
[www.gacc.org.uk](http://www.gacc.org.uk)  
[gacc@btconnect.com](mailto:gacc@btconnect.com)

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## Scrap new flight paths, says GACC

Gatwick Airport's consultation on new flight paths ends on Thursday, 14 August.<sup>1</sup> GACC has submitted a powerful response (copy attached).

New flight paths introduced during the past year are causing a wave of protest across East and West Sussex, Kent and Surrey. Support for GACC (the environmental group covering the whole area around Gatwick) is growing rapidly. Five new local anti-noise groups, linked to GACC, have been formed in recent months.<sup>2</sup> Public meetings with several hundred angry people have been held as far afield as Penshurst near Tunbridge Wells, Crowborough in East Sussex, and Warnham near Horsham.

GACC is demanding that the all the new routes should be scrapped. Brendon Sewill, GACC chairman, said: 'There is no urgent need for these new flight paths, and it makes no sense to introduce them now before a decision is taken whether or not there is to be a new runway.'

Where flight paths are concentrated on a single narrow line (as a result of aircraft now using satellite navigation, like Satnavs in cars), GACC is calling for compensation to be given to people whose houses are devalued.

According to Sewill: 'The law says that, when a new motorway is built, people with houses nearby must receive fair compensation. The same should apply to new motorways in the sky.'

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.gatwickairport.com/business-community/aircraft-noise/consultations-and-schemes/airspace-consultation/>

<sup>2</sup> CAGNE (Horsham), CAGNE East (Tunbridge Wells), HWPAG (the High Weald Parishes Aircraft Action Group - eight parish councils), WAGAN (Sevenoaks Weald), and ESSCAN (Crowborough). All have several hundred members.

***GACC is the main environmental body concerned with Gatwick. Founded in 1968, we have as members nearly 100 Borough, District and Parish Councils and environmental groups covering about a twenty miles radius from the airport. Our committee, elected annually, represents all areas. Because we rely on rational argument and put forward constructive solutions we have had strong support in Parliament and at every level of government.***