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Press Release 1st September 2014

## **Gatwick in a Spin over Angry Residents**

New flight paths introduced by Gatwick Airport Ltd are causing a wave of protest across large parts of East and West Sussex, Kent and Surrey.

MPs, including Nick Herbert (Arundel), Francis Maude (Horsham), Paul Beresford (Dorking), Crispin Blunt (Reigate), John Stanley (Tonbridge), Greg Clark (Tunbridge Wells) and Charles Hendry (Wealden) all report that they are overwhelmed with correspondence from upset constituents.

New anti-noise groups, all welcomed and supported by GACC, have sprung up in Crowborough, Sevenoaks Weald, Tunbridge Wells, Penshurst, Chiddingstone, Beare Green, and Warnham.

Gatwick airport called an emergency meeting on Friday (29<sup>th</sup> August) of the airport noise committee (NATMAG) to try to calm the situation - before it takes the shine off their extravaganza campaign for a second runway.

The problem has been caused by a new route over Warnham and North Horsham, as well as the introduction of new concentrated departure flight paths over Holmwood, Brockham and Reigate, and also over Penshurst and Tunbridge Wells.

These new concentrated routes (PBN - Performance Based Navigation) are causing great distress compounded by a loss in house values of thousands of pounds.

In Kent and East Sussex anger at an increased number of flights has been magnified by fears of new flight paths for arriving aircraft (and concentration on a single merge point) announced by NATS but with the actual location of the new routes and the merge point kept secret.

GACC are monitoring the situation and advising members, and putting forward constructive solutions (see response to airspace consultation at [www.gacc.org.uk](http://www.gacc.org.uk)).