



Stop Bristol Airport Expansion Press Release

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BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL OBJECTS TO AIRPORT EXPANSION PLANS

Bristol City Council has lodged a formal objection to plans to expand Bristol International Airport, because of concerns over night noise, traffic pollution and climate change [1]. The Council, which has pledged to support sustainable development, made the objections to North Somerset Council - the authority responsible for the airport planning decision.

Campaigners from Stop Bristol Airport Expansion (SBAE) said the city authority was right to speak out against the proposal which would damage the local environment and seriously undermine efforts to cut carbon emissions in the region.

Jeremy Birch, speaking for SBAE, said:

“We are delighted that after fully considering the airport’s expansion plans, Bristol City Council has formally lodged its objection. The proposals would have a damaging impact on Bristol’s local environment, damage the local economy and undermine national and regional efforts to tackle climate change. As the neighbouring authority and former owner of the airport, it is only right that Bristol City Council voices its concerns and it deserves recognition for doing so. North Somerset councillors must listen to what they have to say.”

Bristol City Council raised a number of concerns in its formal letter of objection, stating that BIA had failed to adequately address issues that the Council had previously raised in its application. These included:

- Noise levels from planes flying over Bristol, particularly early in the morning and late at night. The number of flights at these times are likely to increase if the airport expands
- Increased airport traffic will reduce air quality in parts of Bristol;
- The airport has failed to provide convincing evidence that its commitment to generate 15% of energy on site from renewable sources is feasible - and this will be insignificant given the overall increase in carbon emissions from flights and increased road traffic;
- New jobs at the airport are hard to access for many of those in Bristol looking for work
- Increased traffic to the airport will exacerbate congestion on the city’s roads, particularly at Cumberland Basin and on Parson’s Street.

Some 6,000 people have registered objections over the airport’s proposed expansion [2], including Wessex Water, local health authorities, parish councils and members of

the public. The application is expected to be before the planning committee later in the year.

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Notes:

[1] Bristol City Council's full objection can be seen online at:

<http://wam.n-somerset.gov.uk/MULTIWAM/doc/Town/Parish%20Council%20Comment-1771975.pdf?extension=.pdf&id=1771975&location=Volume2&contentType=application/pdf&pageCount=5>

[2] Some 5,100 people have sent postal objections, with some 900 registering objections online.