

Kenilworth Town Council objection to Birmingham Airport's planning submission PL/2024/01917/M106.

Kenilworth Town Council **objects** to the proposed revisions to the Night Flying Policy under Birmingham Airport's planning submission PL/2024/01917/M106.

Aircraft are significant sources of CO₂, pollutants, and noise, with late-night arrivals and departures impacting on our community in Kenilworth. Incoming and outgoing flights come low over Kenilworth making a significant noise impact on residents. This is of particular concern in summer, when there is an increase in aircraft movements, and windows are more likely to be open.

The proposed policy would increase night flights from 5% to 7%, against the UK's Aviation Policy Framework, which aims to limit noise and protect residents. The current reduction in noise levels, from 83dba to 81dba is to be welcomed, but is insufficient and does not reflect a true ambition to lower noise pollution.

It is not clear from the economic evidence provided that the failure to increase the number of night flights (rather than the number of flights overall) would impact jobs in the region.

The airport should adopt the World Health Organisation's standard for night-time noise, limiting exposure to 40dba, and should create a night-time flight-free period to protect sleep quality. Additionally, improved public transport to the airport is essential, especially during the night, to reduce the growth of traffic-related pollution.

Rather than expanding night flights, Birmingham Airport should prioritise noise mitigation, reduce total night-time air traffic movements, and in conjunction with airlines develop a comprehensive plan for future noise reduction. We urge the Airport to commit to its social responsibility, balancing economic interests with the health and quality of life of those living nearby and continue with the current night flying restrictions.