

Draft Aviation Policy Framework Consultation News

12 July 2012 - [Airport expansion debate postponed for second time](#)

The coalition has delayed consultation over expanding airports in south-east England, amid reports of disagreements on how to go ahead. Options, including extra runways at Heathrow, Gatwick or Stansted and proposals to build a new airport on the Thames Estuary, are now unlikely to be dealt with until later in the year.

Timeline

It is the second time a consultation on aviation has been postponed.

- 2003 - Labour government lays out plans for third runway at Heathrow
- 2009 - Scheme approved by Labour government
- 2010 - Coalition scraps Heathrow plans and rules out extra runways at Gatwick or Stansted
- May 2011 - London Mayor Boris Johnson backs airport in Thames Estuary
- November 2011 - Architect Lord Foster announces separate scheme for Thames Estuary airport
- Airports consultation meant to start in March, but delayed until summer, and then until autumn. The Conservatives would no longer be covered by their 2010 manifesto pledge to scrap plans for Heathrow expansion.

Package of measures to deliver operational improvements and boost economic growth

- £500m towards a western rail link to Heathrow, to speed up journeys to and from Wales and south-west England
- Proposals to "further liberalise" UK aviation, including extending the ability of Gatwick and Stansted to handle passengers in transit to other destinations
- Increasing competition between airlines and train companies
- Plans to make sure airlines are awarded flight slots in most "economically beneficial" way to UK
- Limiting access of smaller planes to busiest airports to encourage more efficient transport of large passenger numbers

Draft Aviation Policy Framework Press Releases

12 July 2012 - Stop Stansted Expansion - [Time for the 'greenest government ever to honour its promises'](#)

12 July 2012 - RSPB - '[Aviation expansion will be fatal for UK's climate commitments](#)' and '[Aviation at any cost?](#)'

12 July 2012 - British Chambers of Commerce - [Aviation strategy has become a political plaything](#)

12 July 2012 - BAR UK - [Further aviation policy delays will impact economic recovery](#)

Draft Aviation Policy Framework Consultation News Continued

12 July 2012 - [Business leaders attack coalition for dithering over Heathrow](#)

The accusations of dithering come as the government announced it will commit to building a £500 million rail link from the West Country to Heathrow. But Transport Secretary Justine Greening has not made any announcement regarding a third runway at Heathrow, with discussion on that issue delayed until after the summer holidays and party conference season. This lack of decision has led to business chiefs and trade union leader [writing to The Times](#) warning ministers not to kick the issue into the long grass.

12 July 2012 - [Airport capacity plans face fresh delay](#)

Justine Greening, transport secretary, was ordered by Number 10 to delay the consultation on airport capacity in London and the south-east, in an effort to kick one of the most contentious issues facing the coalition into the long grass. Government officials confirmed that Ms Greening was ready to launch an official call for evidence, but that David Cameron, prime minister, asked her to delay the paper. Mr Cameron and Nick Clegg, his deputy, have concluded that the question of building new runways in the London area is too difficult for the coalition and final decisions should be delayed until after the 2015 election.

12 July 2012 - [Local authorities claim Heathrow expansion still not viable](#)

A group of local authorities which won a 2010 High Court challenge to overturn the previous government's Heathrow policy say the evidence against a third runway is as strong today as it was two years ago.

12 July 2012 - [Birmingham Airport welcomes delay to Government's consultation on UK aviation strategy](#)

The SASIG Office has produced a [summary report](#) on the DfT's draft aviation policy framework consultation document.

Draft Aviation Policy Framework Comments and Statements

12 July 2012 - [RSPB, Stop Stansted Expansion and AirportWatch](#)

12 July 2012 - [AirportWatch](#)

12 July 2012 - Institution of Civil Engineers - [Autumn Aviation Consultation must put all options on the table](#)

<p>Government News</p> <p>7 July 2012 - Tories call for third and fourth runway at Heathrow A group of influential Conservative MPs says that creating a new aviation hub in west London is the cheapest and fastest solution to an impending “capacity crunch” that threatens Britain’s economic future. Building two new runways at the west London airport is one of seven policies to boost economic growth that are included in a report by the Free Enterprise Group, 'Policy Bites: Seven Shots in the Arm of Britain' a panel of 39 Conservative MPs, many of whom are close to George Osborne, the Chancellor.</p> <p>8 July 2012 - New funding plan eyed for estuary airport Ambitious plans for a new hub airport in the Thames estuary could be achieved without forcing airlines to fund the project through steep increases in user fees, according to proposals by Lord Foster, the architect behind the project.</p> <p>10 July 2012 - CAA launches plan to improve aviation's environmental performance The UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has launched a four-year programme to help improve aviation’s environmental performance and allow the sector to grow sustainably.</p> <p>11 July 2012 - London Assembly says Ministers must not u-turn on Heathrow The London Assembly says any “u-turn” over Heathrow expansion would be unacceptable and has urged all London MPs to back their stance.</p> <p>11 July 2012 - Essex MP Sir Alan Haselhurst is calling for faster rail links between Stansted Airport and London</p> <p>12 July 2012 - Secretary of State for Transport, Justine Greening - Aviation Policy Framework In March 2011, the Government launched a scoping exercise towards developing a new sustainable policy framework for UK aviation. I am grateful to the more than 600 organisations and individuals who responded. We have given careful consideration to their responses in preparing the draft Aviation Policy Framework consultation document.</p>	<p>European News</p> <p>10 July 2012 - European Parliament calls for airport slot reform to increase efficiency and competition as airports become saturated In a bid to tackle the expected doubling of air traffic by 2030, Members of the European Parliament have called for increased transparency and competitiveness in the allocation of airport slots. Regulators would impose a ‘use it or lose it’ policy and sanctions for airlines that abuse slot allocation. Under the proposed legislation, airlines would also pay a ‘remuneration fee’ for occupying a slot over a period of time to avoid monopolies and larger airlines ‘sitting’ on slots.</p> <p>11 July 2012 - European Commission approves the UK's national auction platform The European Commission (EC) Climate Change Committee (CCC) voted to approve the UK’s national auction platform for phase III and aviation auctions under the European Union Emissions Trading System (EU ETS).</p> <p>Events and Speeches</p> <p>11 July 2012 - Transport Secretary Justine Greening speaks at Farnborough International Air-show - ADS Aviation Security Conference</p> <p>House of Commons Questions</p> <p>Tax on airport slots – Goldsmith, Z - 6 July 2012</p> <p>Future of Cardiff Airport - Evans, J - 9 July 2012</p> <p>Discussions on the sale of BMI - Eagle, M - 9 July 2012</p> <p>Allocation of Slots at EU Airports – Goldsmith, Z - 9 July 2012</p> <p>Air Traffic Distribution Rules at UK airports – Goldsmith, Z - 9 July 2012</p> <p>Collective international aviation connectivity of the five main London airports – Goldsmith, Z - 10 July 2012</p> <p>Plans to introduce a two-tier rate for air passenger duty – Hosie, S - 10 July 2012</p> <p>Ryanair's treatment of passengers with disabilities – Sheerman, B - 11 July 2012</p>
<p>Early Day Motions</p> <p>12 July 2012 - New EDM 394 - Helicopter Flights Over London</p>	
<p>Westminster Debates and Legislation</p> <p>9 July 2012 - Lords Committee stage - Civil Aviation Bill (Day Four)</p>	
<p>SASIG 2012/13 Meeting Dates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday 9 November 2012 • Friday 1 March 2013. <p>Meetings are held between 11am and 1pm, at Local Government House, Smith Square, SW1P 3HZ, with lunch provided afterwards; location map.</p>	<p>Press Releases</p> <p>10 July 2012 - Labour Party - Grounded air traffic control sell-off adds to growing list of Government u-turns - Maria Eagle MP</p> <p>12 July 2012 - Labour Party - Government cannot keep its aviation policy in a holding pattern without harming jobs and growth – Maria Eagle MP</p>

<p>Government News</p> <p>9 July 2012 - Flights of fancy: A case study on aviation and EU funds in Poland - Report from CEE Bankwatch Network The study reviews the rationale of EU Cohesion Policy investments in airport infrastructure using the example of Poland. Both the development and maintenance of airport infrastructure benefit from EU, national and regional budget support. Beyond this, public money flows to airline companies, in practice as gratification for opening and sustaining flight connections.</p> <p>24 July 2012 - Wimbledon MP, Stephen Hammond wants to, 're-examine' third Heathrow runway Mr Hammond MP has insisted he is still against proposals to a third runway at Heathrow airport, despite saying the Government should consider them as part of wider plans to increase the UK's airport capacity.</p>	<p>House of Lords Questions</p> <p>Construction of a direct railway line from Manchester Airport to Chester – Lord Wigley - 19 July 2012</p> <p>Update on the draft aviation policy framework - Lord Spicer - 23 July 2012</p> <p>Monitoring the Gatwick Express – Lord Laird - 24 July 2012</p> <p>Transport Links Between Gatwick and Heathrow – Lord Patten - 25 July 2012</p> <p>Second Runway at Gatwick – Lord Patten - 25 July 2012</p> <p>Definition of an airport hubs – Lord Patten - 25 July 2012</p>
<p>Press Releases</p> <p>22 July 2012 - HS2 Ltd admit to ignoring public consultation responses from those opposed to HS2 - Stop HS2</p>	<p>House of Commons Library</p> <p>25 July 2012 – Aviation: Regional Airports</p>
<p>Events</p> <p>27 September 2012 – A New Aviation Policy: What does the UK really need? - London</p> <p>29 November 2012 - The EU Emissions Trading System: progress, global issues and Phase III - London</p>	<p>Events and Speeches</p> <p>26 July 2012 - Prime Minister David Cameron - Speech to Global Investment Conference Giving an upbeat speech at the Global Investment Conference in the first of a series of Olympic trade summits, Mr Cameron appealed to international companies to invest in Britain during its Olympic year. Britain would be seen as the “hub” from which businesses could expand, he declared.</p>
<p>SASIG 2012/13 Meeting Dates We are making arrangements for the next SASIG meeting to be within the consultation period for the draft aviation policy (likely to be mid-September), and will circulate details once finalised.</p> <p>The subsequent SASIG meetings will be on Friday 9 November 2012 and Friday 1 March 2013.</p> <p>Meetings are held between 11am and 1pm, at Local Government House, Smith Square, SW1P 3HZ, with lunch provided afterwards; location map.</p>	<p>SASIG News</p> <p>SASIG meetings - Please note the amendment to the change to the SASIG meeting dates under ‘SASIG 2012/12 Meeting Dates’.</p> <p>The DfT 'Engagement Event' - draft aviation policy consultation – will be held on Thursday 6 September., 10:00-13:00, Great Minster House, 33 Horseferry Road, London, SW1P 4DR. If you wish to attend this event, please confirm your availability to the SASIG office (sasig@surreycc.gov.uk).</p>

Regional News	Industry News				
<p>23 July 2012 - Work begins on expansion of Land's End airport</p> <p>24 July 2012 - Bristol Airport bosses report a 6.9% rise in passenger numbers in June</p> <p>25 July 2012 - BAA Ltd warn the forced sale of Stansted will 'discourage' foreign investors BAA Ltd has warned that a forced sale of Stansted airport in the current depressed market will discourage foreign investors from backing UK infrastructure projects.</p> <p>25 July 2012 - BAA Ltd posts a 8.8% rise in first-half profit on Heathrow Airport</p> <p>25 July 2012 - BAA Ltd says Stansted airport will rebound when UK economy recovers Stansted's traffic has continued to decline this year, although BAA Ltd's major airport Heathrow has broken new records and improved passenger satisfaction scores.</p> <p>26 July 2012 - Norwich International Airport unveils 10 year vision to create 1,000 new jobs with aviation business park scheme Bosses of Norwich International Airport have unveiled major plans to create a specialist aviation business park which could create nearly 1,000 jobs over the next decade.</p> <p>26 July 2012 - BAA Ltd told by the Court of Appeal it must sell Stansted airport</p> <p>26 July 2012 - BAA Ltd vows to fight against Stansted airport sale through the supreme court</p>	<p>22 July 2012 - Virgin Atlantic poised to appeal the EU decision to allow International Airline Group's (IAG) purchase of Bmi Sir Richard Branson believes that the deal was agreed too quickly given that it resulted in IAG having over half all take-off and landing slots at Heathrow.</p> <p>23 July 2012 - British Airways abandons £250mn fundraising 'bonds' plan International Airlines Group - the parent company of British Airways, launched the plan earlier this month but decided within 11 days that it was not going to work.</p> <tr> <th data-bbox="1124 563 2175 595">Media</th><td data-bbox="1124 595 2175 754"> <p>25 July 2012 - GlobalAirportCities.com interview with Manchester Airport's John Atkins at Airport Cities 2012 Manchester Airport Group's Airport City director John Atkins talks about the development plans for Manchester Airport City.</p> </td></tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="1124 754 2175 786">Press Releases</th><td data-bbox="1124 786 2175 1121"> <p>23 July 2012 - Gatwick Airport master plan gives runway low priority - Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign</p> <p>26 July 2012 - BAA Ltd finally runs out of runway at Stansted - Stop Stansted Expansion</p> <p>26 July 2012 - Competition Commission welcomes Stansted sale verdict</p> <p>26 July 2012 - easyJet statement: Stansted Airport Sale</p> </td></tr>	Media	<p>25 July 2012 - GlobalAirportCities.com interview with Manchester Airport's John Atkins at Airport Cities 2012 Manchester Airport Group's Airport City director John Atkins talks about the development plans for Manchester Airport City.</p>	Press Releases	<p>23 July 2012 - Gatwick Airport master plan gives runway low priority - Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign</p> <p>26 July 2012 - BAA Ltd finally runs out of runway at Stansted - Stop Stansted Expansion</p> <p>26 July 2012 - Competition Commission welcomes Stansted sale verdict</p> <p>26 July 2012 - easyJet statement: Stansted Airport Sale</p>
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Consultations
<p>19 July 2012 - Gatwick Airport master plan 2012 - P-RNAV consultation A consultation is open from 19 July 2012 to 19 October 2012 to accurately refine the existing aircraft departure routes from Gatwick within the next five years.</p>
SASIG News
<p>The DfT 'Engagement Event' - draft aviation policy consultation – will be held on Thursday 6 September, 10:00-13:00, in London. If you wish to attend, please confirm your availability to the SASIG office - sasig@surreycc.gov.uk.</p>

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<p>31 July 2012 – Heathrow Airport's owner expects a noise compensation regime will be needed if a third runway at the airport is given the ministerial go-ahead</p> <p>31 July 2012 - Airlines opposed to EU emissions trading set to meet Countries opposed to the EU Emission Trading Scheme are attending a US government meeting to fight the unilateral tax.</p> <p>1 August 2012 - The Office of Rail Regulation (ORR) sets out Network Rail's finance and output frameworks for 2014-19 The Office of Rail Regulation (ORR) has launched consultations to help establish Network Rail's financial and output frameworks between 2014-19, towards ensuring that the company delivers a safe, high-performing and 'value for money' railway.</p> <p>To contribute to the consultations, visit: http://www.rail-reg.gov.uk/pr13/consultations/financial-issues.php and http://www.rail-reg.gov.uk/pr13/consultations/outputs.php</p>	<p>30 July 2012 - As Greening ordered to explain growing HS2 consultation errors in court, HS2 chief says methodology was inadequate - Stop HS2</p> <p>31 July 2012 - Heathrow express strike ballot - Rail, Maritime and Transport union (RMT) Rail union RMT has confirmed that it is preparing to ballot cleaning, facilities and asset management and mechanical engineering staff on Heathrow Express for both strike action and action short of a strike in a dispute over pay.</p> <th data-bbox="1122 671 2197 708">Events</th> <td data-bbox="1122 708 2197 1002"><p>Short courses:</p><p>3rd-5th October 2012 - Introduction to Air Transport Economics and Planning</p><p>7th-9th November 2012 - Demand Analysis and Capacity Management</p><p>3rd-5th December 2012 - Introduction to Air Transport Business and Management</p></td>	Events	<p>Short courses:</p> <p>3rd-5th October 2012 - Introduction to Air Transport Economics and Planning</p> <p>7th-9th November 2012 - Demand Analysis and Capacity Management</p> <p>3rd-5th December 2012 - Introduction to Air Transport Business and Management</p>
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Regional News	Industry News
<p>27 July 2012 - Manchester Airports Group (MAG) could benefit from ruling on BAA Stansted appeal MAG is keen to buy Stansted and local authority owners plan to secure funds for a bid.</p> <p>27 July 2012 - Kent County Councillor criticises own council about Gatwick Airport expansion Councillor Peter Lake said the council should be promoting Kent's existing international airport, rather than Gatwick, which is on the Surrey-Sussex border.</p> <p>30 July 2012 - Ryanair Seeking 25% Stake in London Stansted Airport Bid Group</p> <p>30 July 2012 - Letter to The Times - Heathrow court ruling can't be ignored</p> <p>31 July 2012 - Global Infrastructure Partners (GIP) raises £4.7bn for Gatwick Airport's second infrastructure fund</p> <p>31 July 2012 - Redhill Aerodrome revises bid to replace three grass runways with a concrete one If successful, the plan would give Redhill Aerodrome the potential to increase flights from 60,000 to 85,000 a year.</p> <p>31 July 2012 - Owners of British Airways and Heathrow airport denounce the funding plan for a new hub in the Thames estuary</p> <p>2 August 2012 - Southend becomes sixth 'London' airport Southend airport is officially a London airport after the International Air Transport Association (IATA) included it in the classification of the Metropolitan Area of London.</p> <p>3 August 2012 - Hong Kong-based commercial empire Hutchison Whampoa Limited (HWL) confirms plans to buy Manchester Airport</p>	<p>29 July 2012 - British airports under threat from rise of Gulf hubs, says Etihad boss James Hogan, chief executive of Etihad has claimed that a lack of long-term planning will damage British aviation as the Gulf hubs grow and passengers bypass Heathrow for long-haul trips. He also affirmed his airline "was in Manchester for the long haul".</p> <p>29 July 2012 - Etihad aims to take a seat on the board of Aer Lingus as it builds its own global alliance of airlines Etihad, the Gulf airline, is eyeing a seat on the board of Aer Lingus as it builds ambitions for its own global network to rival the likes of British Airways' oneworld alliance. The airline has been acquiring stakes in a number of carriers, including Air Berlin and Virgin Australia.</p> <p>30 July 2012 - Business travel outperforming UK economy</p> <p>30 July 2012 - NATS on track to hit environmental targets NATS, the UK's leading provider of air traffic services and solutions, has released the second quarter of performance data for its world-first environmental flight efficiency metric. Known as 3Di, the tool is designed to deliver 600,000 tonnes of CO2 savings over the next three years – the equivalent to 10,000 flights from London to New York.</p> <p>3 August 2012 - Eastern Airways takes majority stake in Humberside airport Manchester Airport Group (MAG) has sold its 87.2 per cent stake in Humberside airport to the Eastern Group, owners of the regional carrier Eastern Airways.</p>
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Press Releases		Party Conference News	
5 August 2012 - Devolve Air Passenger Duty to boost economy and Ease Congestion - Scottish National Party (SNP) Devolving responsibility for air passenger duty would help reverse the historic imbalance in UK aviation policy, providing a boost for the Scottish economy and passengers, as well as easing congestion at Heathrow and Gatwick the SNP Westminster Transport spokesperson Angus MacNeil MP has said.		10 August 2012 – Liberal Democrats release their party conference agenda Brighton 22-26 September 2012	
10 August 2012 - Deputy Prime Minister announces new jobs and investment for UK advanced engineering excellence - Department of Business, Innovation and Skills Tbilisi Aircraft Manufacturing and MARKET-MATS, with the support of The Get It Group LLC, have signed an agreement to locate their advanced manufacturing campuses in the Hereford Enterprise Zone and Model Farm Ross-on-Wye, creating over 1,000 new jobs, over 10 per cent of whom will be apprentices, and increasing local spending power by £20 million per annum. Airbus will recruit 169 apprentices and graduates in September, in addition to taking on around 600 new UK employees during 2012.		Events 27 September 2012 – A New Aviation Policy: What does the UK really need? - London 29 November 2012 - The EU Emissions Trading System: progress, global issues and Phase III – London Short courses: 3rd-5th October 2012 - Introduction to Air Transport Economics and Planning 7th-9th November 2012 - Demand Analysis and Capacity Management 3rd-5th December 2012 - Introduction to Air Transport Business and Management	
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Regional News

2 August 2012 - [Humberside Airport sold to Eastern Group](#)

Despite the sale, North Lincolnshire Council will keep its 17.5 per cent minority stake.

4 August 2012 - [Manchester Airport secures £1bn boost to buy Stansted](#)

Manchester Airports Group (MAG) is currently jointly owned by Greater Manchester's ten town halls. But under the deal, which is conditional on the Stansted takeover going ahead, largest shareholder Manchester council would reduce its share from 55 per cent to 35 per cent. The remaining nine councils would jointly have a 30 per cent stake, down from 45 per cent.

4 August 2012 - [Carlisle Airport plans to redevelop approved, but legal and planning obstacles still remain](#)

City councillors have approved in principle Stobart Air's £25 million scheme for a 394,000sq ft freight-distribution centre and to resurface the runway for passenger flights and air freight. But there are still legal and planning obstacles to be overcome. And objectors could yet seek a judicial review of the council's decision.

7 August 2012 - [British International Helicopters \(BIH\) to close Penzance to Isles of Scilly service](#)

BIH will discontinue its scheduled service between Penzance to the Isles of Scilly on 1 November. The company's heliport at Penzance is also set to close. BIH says it remains committed to finding a suitable relocation site in west Cornwall.

7 August 2012 - [Hong Kong Airlines suspends Gatwick route](#)

Hong Kong Airlines has suspended all bookings for its Gatwick to Hong Kong route after 3 September, which has resulted in rumours the route may be dropped.

8 August 2012 - [Airlines sceptical that Heathrow's HS2 station will be built](#)

Airlines fear plans to link the HS2 line with Heathrow will never happen, according to the director of Heathrow Hub Ltd, Steve Costello.

Industry News

6 August 2012 - [Chief Executive of International Airlines Group \(IAG\), Willie Walsh confirms the demise of Bmibaby](#)

British Airways owner IAG - the parent company of British Airways and Spain's Iberia which was created by the merger of the two carriers in 2010 is to press ahead with plans to close no-frills airline Bmibaby next month.

Virgin Atlantic is among the airlines planning to apply for the short-haul slots made available as a result of Bmibaby's closure. Two slots from Heathrow to Moscow have already been awarded to Russian carrier Transaero.

Events

27 September 2012 – [A New Aviation Policy: What does the UK really need?](#) - London

29 November 2012 - [The EU Emissions Trading System: progress, global issues and Phase III](#) - London

Press Releases

3 August 2012 – [Stop Stansted Expansion Celebrates its Tenth Birthday](#)

SASIG News

You can now keep up to date with the latest SASIG news via our 'Latest News' webpage (<http://sasig.org.uk/category/latest-news/>). Some articles on this page may require you to log in. If you do not know your username and password, please contact the SASIG Office.

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