

GATCOM WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

The purpose of GATCOM's newsletter is to help GATCOM member organisations and other interested parties keep up to date with the latest news articles, publications and innovations relating to Gatwick Airport and the wider aviation industry. It is not intended to promote or scrutinise any news articles, press releases or publications referenced.

31 JULY 2026

CURRENT NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS

Consultation on a Proposed Electronic Conspicuity Mandate in the UK

Closing date: 22/09/2026

<https://consultations.caa.co.uk/safety-and-airspace-regulation-group/ec-mandate/>

DfT consultation: Draft Heathrow Expansion National Policy Statement proposed amendments

Closing Date: 01/09/2026

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/draft-heathrow-expansion-national-policy-statement-proposed-amendments>

CAA consultation: Consultation on Amendments to UK Reg (EU)139/2014 and CAP 168 - Consultation relating to aircraft diversion and aircraft diversion plans at certified and licensed aerodromes

Closing date: 21/09/2026

<https://consultations.caa.co.uk/airworthiness-policy-team/consultation-on-amendments-a/>

PUBLICATIONS & INDUSTRY UPDATES

The Economic Impact of A Third Runway at Heathrow

Examining the national and regional costs of airport expansion

New Economics Foundation – 27/07/2026

<https://neweconomics.org/2026/07/the-economic-impact-of-a-third-runway-at-heathrow>

General Equilibrium Modelling Of Capacity Expansion At Heathrow

Airport: Report Prepared for the Department for Transport

Frontier Economics – June 2026

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6a427e13db380b085e94ab2e/spatial-computable-general-equilibrium-modelling-apacity-expansion-heathrow-airport.pdf>

Farnborough Airshow 2026: A glimpse of aviation's future

NATS blog – 29/07/2026

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GATWICK AIRPORT LIMITED MEDIA RELEASES

London Gatwick becomes UK's only airport offering direct flights to Harare

24/07/2026

<https://www.mediacentre.gatwickairport.com/news/london-gatwick-becomes-uk-s-only-airport-offering-direct-flights-to-harare-a9d8e-40f32.html>

The easiest parking space you'll never have to find: London Gatwick and Stanley Robotics launch robotic parking

23/07/2026

<https://www.mediacentre.gatwickairport.com/news/the-easiest-parking-space-you-ll-never-have-to-find-london-gatwick-and-stanley-robotics-launch-robotic-parking-82f3d-40f32.html>

GATWICK AIRPORT PRESS

GACC seeks permission to appeal High Court ruling on Gatwick expansion: Court of Appeal hearing starts

Sussex World – 29/07/2026

<https://www.sussexexpress.co.uk/news/environment/gacc-seeks-permission-to-appeal-high-court-ruling-on-gatwick-expansion-court-of-appeal-hearing-starts-8828718>

Flights maintained during Gatwick water shortage

Travel Weekly – 27/07/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/flights-maintained-during-gatwick-water-shortage>

Gatwick Airport water outage was 'unprecedented'

BBC – 27/07/2026

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c79g32z71nqo>

Aircraft refuellers at Gatwick threaten peak summer strike

Travel Weekly – 24/07/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/aircraft-refuellers-at-gatwick-threaten-peak-summer-strike>

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General Headlines

Heathrow expansion would take thousands of jobs from other UK regions, report finds [see *publications* section for both reports referenced in the article]

Guardian – 27/07/2026

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2026/jul/27/heathrow-expansion-would-take-jobs-from-other-uk-regions-third-runway>

Airport drop-off fees up by a third - here are the priciest

BBC – 23/07/2026

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c2lqd72d4lqo>

Airlines likely to ‘trim frequencies and ground aircraft’ in winter due to high fuel costs

Travel Weekly – 28/07/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/airlines-likely-to-trim-frequencies-and-ground-aircraft-in-winter-due-to-high-fuel-costs>

Ryanair and WizzAir passengers sent August warning over UK airport strikes

AOL – 28/07/2026

<https://www.aol.co.uk/articles/ryanair-wizzair-passengers-sent-august-044000000.html>

Passenger news

Ryanair summer update as planes 'won't wait' for some people

Daily Star – 27/07/2026

<https://www.dailystar.co.uk/news/latest-news/ryanair-summer-update-planes-wont-37480427>

The surprising ways air travel can affect your body

Independent – 23/07/2026

<https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/flying-airplane-body-health-risks-b3020268.html>

Industry news

ABTA reiterates EES advice as 2.2m prepare to head overseas

Travel Weekly – 23/07/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/abta-reiterates-ees-advice-as-22m-prepare-to-head-overseas>

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New IATA chief to pilot association ‘to even greater heights’

Travel Weekly – 23/07/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/new-iata-chief-to-pilot-association-to-even-greater-heights>

Environmental news

Over £7 million to fuel zero-emission flight across the UK: Announces £7.3 million in funding for 8 projects aiming to fuel the UK's transition to zero-emission flights

DfT – 23/07/2026

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/over-7-million-to-fuel-zero-emission-flight-across-the-uk>

OTHER UKACCS MEMBER AIRPORTS

Aberdeen

Aberdeen Airport security staff call off strike action

The Herald – 27/07/2026

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/26412212.aberdeen-airport-security-staff-call-off-strike-action/>

Aberdeen Airport profits fall despite new routes boosting international travel

Press & Journal – 23/07/2026

<https://www.pressandjournal.co.uk/fp/business/local/7062433/aberdeen-airport-international-flights-growth/>

Belfast International

Ryanair Marks 7 Million Passengers Through Belfast International Airport

ITN – 29/07/2026

<https://itn.ie/travel-news/ryanair-marks-7-million-passengers-through-belfast-international-airport/>

Birmingham

Birmingham Airport joins hydrogen aviation project to prepare for zero-emission flights

The Business Desk – 23/07/2026

<https://www.thebusinessdesk.com/westmidlands/news/2114768-birmingham-airport-joins-hydrogen-aviation-project-to-prepare-for-zero-emission-flights>

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Brums on seats! easyJet celebrates flying ten million passengers to and from Birmingham Airport

Birmingham Airport – 29/07/2026

<https://www.birminghamairport.co.uk/latest-news/brums-on-seats-easyjet-celebrates-flying-ten-million-passengers-to-and-from-birmingham-airport/>

Birmingham Airport donates firefighting gear in support of fire fighters' charity

Airside – 27/07/2026

<https://airsideint.com/birmingham-airport-donates-firefighting-gear-in-support-of-fire-fighters-charity/>

Bristol

Bristol Airport set to pioneer first hydrogen-powered flight

Travel Weekly – 24/07/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/bristol-airport-set-to-pioneer-first-hydrogen-powered-flight>

Bristol Airport grant helps Wrington bee education project thrive

South West Farmer – 29/07/2026

<https://www.southwestfarmer.co.uk/news/26416711.bristol-airport-grant-helps-wrington-bee-education-project-thrive/>

Can Bristol Airport go carbon neutral?

BBC News – 25/07/2026

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/videos/c1w10071pdeo>

East Midlands

Dräger supports East Midlands Airport to strengthen firefighter safety

Emergency Services Times – 28/07/2026

<https://emergencyservicetimes.com/2026/07/28/drager-supports-east-midlands-airport-to-strengthen-firefighter-safety/>

Glasgow

KLM Celebrates 80 Years of Connectivity Between Glasgow and Amsterdam

Glasgow World – 29/07/2026

<https://www.glasgowworld.com/news/klm-celebrates-80-years-of-connectivity-between-glasgow-and-amsterdam-8828636>

Liverpool

LJA expecting another record summer

Liverpool Chamber – 28/07/2026

<https://www.liverpoolchamber.org.uk/news/2026/07/lja-expecting-another-record-summer/>

Liverpool named UK's most punctual airport as Manchester ranks last

Liverpool Echo – 29/07/2026

<https://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/whats-on/whats-on-news/liverpool-named-uks-most-punctual-34369539>

Solar assisted Bolt e bikes and scooters now link Liverpool Airport

The Westmorland Gazette – 29/07/2026

<https://www.thewestmorlandgazette.co.uk/news/26413270.solar-assisted-bolt-e-bikes-scooters-now-link-liverpool-airport/>

London Heathrow

CAA approves Heathrow expansion early cost recovery

International Airport Review – 29/07/2026

<https://www.internationalairportreview.com/caa-approves-heathrow-expansion-early-cost-recovery/2136102.article>

Heathrow passengers to pay higher fares as airport recoups expansion costs

Independent – 29/07/2026

<https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/heathrow-expansion-flights-air-fares-b3023539.html>

Heathrow can show British infrastructure still delivers

New Civil Engineer – 27/07/2026

<https://www.newcivilengineer.com/latest/heathrow-can-show-british-infrastructure-still-delivers-27-07-2026/>

Heathrow boss warns Burnham against Budget raid after hub's tax bill doubles

City AM – 24/07/2026

<https://www.cityam.com/heathrow-boss-warns-against-tax-raid/>

Heathrow reiterates third runway case as half year passengers hit record level

Travel Weekly – 23/07/2026

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<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/heathrow-reiterates-third-runway-case-as-half-year-passengers-hit-record-level>

Heathrow Expansion Sparks Concerns At Public Meeting

Hounslow Herald – 28/07/2026

<https://hounslowherald.com/heathrow-expansion-sparks-concerns-at-public-meeting-p33392-95.htm>

Record Half For Heathrow Driven By Asia-Pacific Growth

Aviation Week – 24/07/2026

<https://aviationweek.com/air-transport/airports-networks/record-half-heathrow-driven-asia-pacific-growth>

Heathrow launches real-time mapping platform to boost airport operations

Groundhandling International – 29/07/2026

<https://www.groundhandlinginternational.com/content/news/heathrow-launches-real-time-mapping-platform-to-boost-airport-operations>

Young Engineer Who Joined Virgin Atlantic to 'Develop Skills' Dies Weeks After Machinery Accident at Heathrow

IB Times – 28/07/2026

<https://www.ibtimes.co.uk/virgin-atlantic-engineer-death-safety-concerns-1811165>

Heathrow speeds up security and adds routes for the summer peak

Travelling for Business – 29/07/2026

<https://travellingforbusiness.co.uk/news/whats-new-at-heathrow-this-summer/>

Pret launches flagship store in Heathrow Terminal 5

Retail Gazette – 28/07/2026

<https://www.retailgazette.co.uk/blog/2026/07/pret-heathrow-terminal-5/>

London Luton

London Luton Airport's novel idea to get kids reading this summer

Airport Suppliers – 28/07/2026

https://www.airport-suppliers.com/airport_press_release/london-luton-airports-novel-idea-to-get-kids-reading-this-summer/

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London Southend

Plane lost control before Southend Airport crash

BBC – 29/07/2026

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cwyq70j38weo>

London Stansted

Investing in the future: Why London Stansted's transformation matters for passengers, businesses and our region

Business Weekly – 28/07/2026

<https://www.businessweekly.co.uk/posts/investing-in-the-future-why-london-stansted-s-transformation-matters-for-passengers-businesses>

Unauthorised airport car park grows despite stop notice

BBC – 29/07/2026

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cn8ngxw5195o>

Lions on the Loose: St Clare Hospice chooses Stansted Airport to launch fundraising art trail featuring 63 lion sculptures

Bishop's Stortford Independent – 27/07/2026

<https://www.bishopstortfordindependent.co.uk/news/hospice-takes-pride-in-its-lions-on-the-loose-fundraiser-9475857/>

Newcastle

Newcastle Airport tops UK punctuality rankings in latest CAA figures

The Northern Echo – 28/07/2026

<https://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/26412865.newcastle-airport-tops-uk-punctuality-rankings-latest-cao-figures/>

Southampton

Southampton Airport forecasts busiest Summer

Travel Daily News – 28/07/2026

<https://www.traveldailynews.com/aviation/southampton-airport-forecasts-busiest-summer/>