

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.

8 OCTOBER 2026

CURRENT NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS

There are currently no relevant open national consultations.

PUBLICATIONS & INDUSTRY UPDATES

Night flights in Europe: trends, impacts and policy responses: AEF recently produced a report on night flights for [UECNA](#), the umbrella organisation for people overflowed by aircraft across Europe. The report goes into detail on night flight restrictions and flight numbers at 31 different airports around Europe and the UK, as well as analysing the economic and health impacts of nighttime operations

AEF – 05/10/2026

<https://www.aef.org.uk/2026/10/05/night-flights-in-europe/>

Position Paper on Aviation Noise: A call for keeping action

Airport Regions Council

<https://www.airportregions.org/post/position-paper-on-aviation-noise-a-call-for-keeping-action>

Annual air passenger survey: Satisfaction remains high as more use public transport to get to airport

CAA – 07/10/2026

<https://www.caa.co.uk/newsroom/news/annual-air-passenger-survey-satisfaction-remains-high-as-more-use-public-transport-to-get-to-airport/>

[Altitude Live at DroneX: From drone operations to an integrated airspace](#)

NATS blog – 02/10/2026

GATWICK AIRPORT PRESS

Businesses hope for increased footfall from Gatwick expansion

BBC – 04/10/2026

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/videos/cqn73yvr144eo>

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General Headlines

AEF supports call for independent ombudsman for airspace change: AEF is supporting 20 community groups calling for an independent ombudsman on airspace design decisions

AEF – 06/10/2026

<https://www.aef.org.uk/2026/10/06/independent-ombudsman-for-airspace-change/>

Upcoming air traffic reforms will reduce delays, emissions

ICAO – 05/10/2026

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/upcoming-air-traffic-reforms-reduce-delays-emissions-icao-clbje/>

**Satisfaction with UK airports ‘remains high’ despite rise in passenger numbers
[see also publications section]**

Travel Weekly – 07/10/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/satisfaction-with-uk-airports-remains-high-despite-rise-in-passenger-numbers>

UK airport e-gates to switch to contactless technology

Travel Weekly – 06/10/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/uk-airport-e-gates-to-switch-to-contactless-technology>

Passenger news

Andy Burnham makes major change to 'rip off' UK airline rules

Echo – 01/10/2026

<https://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/andy-burnham-makes-major-change-34704269>

British Airways unveils new first class with private suites like ‘luxury hotel’ in the sky

Independent – 07/10/2026

<https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/british-airways-first-business-class-cabin-reveal-b3062678.html>

Industry news

Burnham ‘offers hope’ but Budget key, say industry leaders

Travel Weekly – 07/10/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/burnham-offers-hope-but-budget-key-say-industry-leaders>

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OTHER UKACCS MEMBER AIRPORTS

Aberdeen

Bristow and Aberdeen International Airport Hold Major Emergency Training Exercise

Scottish Tourism Alliance – 07/10/2026

<https://scottishtourismalliance.co.uk/2026/10/07/bristow-aberdeen-airport-emergency-exercise/>

Belfast City

Lights, Camera, Action: Belfast City Airport Sponsorship Takes Cinemagic Film Festival to New Heights

Love Belfast – 30/09/2026

<https://lovebelfast.co.uk/cinemagic-film-festival-2026-belfast-city-airport/>

Birmingham

From a wartime airfield to the UK's seventh-busiest airport

Birmingham Now – 04/10/2026

<https://www.birmingham-now.co.uk/news/26589587.wartime-airfield-uks-seventh-busiest-airport/>

easyJet launches brand-new direct flights from Birmingham Airport for 2027 – including an underrated Balkan gem

Secret Birmingham – 07/10/2026

<https://secretbirmingham.com/easyjet-flights-birmingham-airport-milan-tivat/>

Bristol

Bristol Airport renews top-level carbon accreditation

The Business Desk – 04/10/2026

<https://www.thebusinessdesk.com/south-west/news/47260-bristol-airport-renews-top-level-carbon-accreditation>

Bristol Airport backs three aviation decarbonisation projects

Exmouth Journal – 04/10/2026

<https://www.exmouthjournal.co.uk/news/26606013.bristol-airport-backs-three-aviation-decarbonisation-projects/>

East Midlands

East Midlands Airport becomes the first UK airport with contactless eGate tech

West Bridgford Wire - 06/10/2026

<https://westbridgfordwire.com/east-midlands-airport-becomes-the-first-uk-airport-with-contactless-egate/>

Edinburgh

Edinburgh Airport unveils new brand identity reflecting its position as Scotland's busiest airport and future ambitions

GTR Magazine – 07/10/2026

<https://www.gtrmag.com/blog/edinburgh-airport-unveils-new-brand-identity-reflecting-its-position-as-scotlands-busiest-airport-and-future-ambitions>

Glasgow

Ryanair Celebrates 8 Million Passengers Through Glasgow Airport

Renfrewshire Chamber – 07/10/2026

<https://www.renfrewshirechamber.com/ryanair-celebrates-8-million-passengers-through-glasgow-airport/>

Glasgow Prestwick

Call for ministers to intervene over Prestwick flight appeal

Ayr Advertiser – 03/10/2026

<https://www.ayradvertiser.com/news/26601870.call-ministers-intervene-glasgow-prestwick-flight-appeal/>

Leeds Bradford

Leeds Bradford Airport workers set to strike

Travel Gossip – 06/10/2026

<https://travelgossip.co.uk/latestnews/leeds-bradford-airport-workers-set-to-strike/>

Leeds Bradford Airport promises faster processing time with new passenger security lanes

Travel Weekly – 05/10/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/leeds-bradford-airport-promises-faster-processing-time-with-new-passenger-security-lanes>

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Leeds Bradford Airport reiterates night operations proposals would replace movement cap with noise quota as support window extends to 15 October

International Airport Review – 07/10/2026

<https://www.internationalairportreview.com/leeds-bradford-airport-says-night-flying-plans-modernise-noise-management-without-raising-overall-limit/2136684.article>

London City

14 charities and groups receive £38,000 from airport fund

Newham Recorder – 05/10/2026

<https://www.newhamrecorder.co.uk/news/26609306.14-charities-groups-receive-38-000-airport-fund/>

Loganair to axe Isle of Man-London City route

BBC – 30/09/2026

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/ckpq0rr97z41o>

London Heathrow

Heathrow Airport warns third runway could be delayed by four years

BBC – 26/09/2026

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/crx2zz401935o>

Conservatives vow to do ‘whatever it takes’ to build Heathrow third runway

Prime Minister Andy Burnham is said to be maintaining an ‘open mind’ regarding expansion at the nation’s busiest airport

Independent – 04/10/2026

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/conservative-conference-heathrow-third-runway-b3061121.html>

London mayoral hopeful James Cleverly refuses to back Kemi Badenoch's full support for Heathrow third runway

The Standard – 06/10/2026

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/heathrow-flights-third-runway-conservatives-james-cleverly-sadiq-khan-b1299641.html>

Surinder Arora pushes for timely Heathrow expansion

Eastern Eye – 01/10/2026

<https://www.easterneye.biz/surinder-arora-2677965630/>

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Response to potential Heathrow expansion delays

Heathrow Reimagined – 05/10/2026

<https://www.heathrow-reimagined.com/campaign-news/campaign-statement-response-to-potential-heathrow-expansion-delays/>

Heathrow Wilson James workers secure inflation busting pay rise after unionising

Unite – 07/10/2026

<https://www.unitetheunion.org/news-events/news/2026/october/heathrow-wilson-james-workers-secure-inflation-busting-pay-rise-after-unionising>

British Airways to build massive Heathrow lounge

Inside Flyer – 07/10/2026

<https://www.insideflyer.com/posts/british-airways-to-build-massive-heathrow-lounge/>

18-Hour Flights: Heathrow's 11 New Ultra-Long Nonstop Routes Revealed

Simple Flying – 07/10/2026

<https://simpleflying.com/18-hour-flights-heathrows-11-new-ultra-long-nonstop-routes/>

Grey Goose Berry Rouge makes GTR debut at London Heathrow

TR Business – 07/10/2026

<https://www.trbusiness.com/product-news/wine-spirits/grey-goose-berry-rouge-makes-gtr-debut-at-london-heathrow/284163>

London Luton

London Luton pushes public transport with journey planner and £2 bus ticket

Travel Mole – 05/10/2026

<https://travelmole.com/news/london-luton-pushes-public-transport>

London Southend

Southend Airport names Sharmeen Divan as interim CEO

Thurrock Gazette – 01/10/2026

<https://www.thurrockgazette.co.uk/news/26599451.southend-airport-names-sharmeen-divan-interim-ceo/>

New proposed bus routes linking Southend Airport backed

Echo – 07/10/2026

<https://www.echo-news.co.uk/news/26612316.new-proposed-bus-routes-linking-southend-airport-backed/>

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Southend Airport parking fines reach £1,600 for taxi firm

Romford Recorder – 01/10/2026

<https://www.romfordrecorder.co.uk/news/26596222.taxi-firm-hit-1-600-southend-airport-parking-fines/>

London Stansted

Priti Patel declares Stansted education centre top of the class

Business Weekly – 06/10/2026

<https://www.businessweekly.co.uk/posts/priti-patel-declares-stansted-education-centre-top-of-the-class>

London Stansted's Aerozone celebrates 30,000 visitors

Braintree and Witham Times – 06/10/2026

<https://www.braintreeandwithamtimes.co.uk/news/26612083.london-stansted-aerozone-celebrates-30-000-visitors/>

Picture of the week: London Stansted Airport's on-site solar farm is now fully operational, supplying up to 12.8 MW of renewable power directly to the airport network

International Airport Review – 02/10/2026

<https://www.internationalairportreview.com/picture-of-the-week-london-stansted-on-site-solar-farm-becomes-fully-operational-with-128-mw-of-ac-capacity/2136639.article>

Manchester

Manchester Airport bosses say they need to move key motorway road

Manchester Evening News – 01/10/2026

<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/manchester-airport-bosses-say-need-34697346>

Manchester Airport Station to Receive £115m Upgrade in Major Boost for Rail Connectivity

Rail Technology – 07/10/2026

<https://www.railtechnologymagazine.com/articles/manchester-airport-station-receive-ps115m-upgrade-major-boost-rail-connectivity>

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Fact-checked: The truth behind claims planes full of migrants are landing at Manchester Airport on secret nighttime flight

Manchester Evening News – 06/10/2026

<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/fact-checked-are-planes-full-34723215>

Newcastle

Newcastle Airport crowned Airport of the Year at prestigious Aviation Industry Awards UK

Routes Online – 06/10/2026

<https://www.routesonline.com/airports/8267/newcastle-international-airport/news/299667013/newcastle-airport-crowned-airport-of-the-year-at-prestigious-aviation-industry-awards-uk/>

Southampton

Southampton Airport confirms new operations chief ahead of new route launch

Travel Weekly – 06/10/2026

<https://travelweekly.co.uk/news/southampton-airport-confirms-new-operations-chief-ahead-of-new-route-launch>