



The countryside charity  
Sussex

CPRE Sussex  
Brownings Farm  
Blackboys  
East Sussex TN22 5HG  
Telephone 01825 890975  
info@cpresussex.org.uk  
www.cpresussex.org.uk

By email to WSSC Councillors

21 October 2021

Dear Councillors,

### **Motion 9a on Gatwick Expansion**

I write as Chair of CPRE Sussex. We much appreciate the forward-looking stance local councils have taken on climate change. The Council has recognised that the impacts of climate change on West Sussex will be severe if action is not taken. To avoid the harm and damage that such impacts will bring means taking action now to limit emissions of greenhouse gases from all sources. Voting just for mitigation will not help reduce emissions as airport expansion will increase them.

I urge you to use your vote to further the aim of reducing emissions, not for a motion like 9a that would allow the increased emissions that Gatwick expansion would cause. Such a vote to reduce emissions would be in line with government policy. Please vote against the Motion as it stands since it does not advocate sufficiently strong mitigations and also make clear the Council's opposition to Gatwick expansion in current environmental, social and environmental circumstances because it is not a sustainable development.

We do not feel this motion asking for mitigation does enough to protect the residents, properties and land of Sussex from the impacts of climate change and leaves largely unaddressed issues such as the harm to wellbeing resulting from aircraft noise and pollution. CPRE Sussex believes the motion should be amended to oppose Gatwick expansion because lower emissions from aircraft and other modes of transport cannot be guaranteed given the current technologies and because noise, already substantial, would increase further as would air quality problems. Other Councils in the South-East are opposing expansion for the simple reason that expansion would increase greenhouse gas emissions and thus runs counter to government policy on meeting our obligations under the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

The current operations at Gatwick are already in need of strong mitigation meaning that there should be set targets to reduce emissions, noise, air pollution and transport movements in the area, that these targets should be monitored and that there should be some form of consequence for not meeting those targets.

In such circumstances why is Gatwick expansion really necessary?

Your sincerely,  
Dan Osborn,  
Chair, CPRE Sussex

To promote, enhance and protect a thriving countryside for everyone's benefit

President: Lord Egremont

Campaign to Protect Rural England Sussex Branch CIO | Registered charity number: 1156568

Facebook : [www.facebook.com/CPRESussex](https://www.facebook.com/CPRESussex) | Twitter : @cpresussex