

For immediate use

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2021

## Third Runway no longer needed

The former Chair of the Airports Commission, Sir Howard Davies is no longer convinced that an economic case can be made for Heathrow Expansion.

When asked yesterday by Nick Ferrari on LBC **(1)** whether he was still in favour of the project, Sir Howard said: *"I would have to redo the numbers to see if the economics made sense."*

Indeed, the Department for Transport's own analysis **(2)** consistently revised down the economic benefits assessed by the Airports Commission and highlighted that any delay to the project may eliminate any such benefits all together.

Many campaigners have long called on the Government to review the Airports National Policy Statement in light of delays to the project and increasingly stringent climate targets.

**Paul McGuinness, Chair No 3rd Runway Coalition** said:

*"It is remarkable that the leading advocate of Heathrow's expansion now doubts that an economic case can even be made for the project. This is before one considers the noise, air pollution and carbon impact the project would have. For the sake of the many communities who have long feared it, the time has surely now come for the government to rule out Heathrow Expansion, once and for all."*

Ends.

### Notes

1. <https://www.globalplayer.com/catchup/lbc/uk/episodes/2zGuBkZCWPfwBXnkwkd9H5GPX3/> from 00:45:20
2. DfT (2017) Updated Appraisal Report [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/653879/updated-appraisal-report-airport-capacity-in-the-south-east.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/653879/updated-appraisal-report-airport-capacity-in-the-south-east.pdf)

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