**NO 3RD RUNWAY COALITION**

**PRESS RELEASE**

25 February 2020

*For immediate use*

**HEATHROW COURT RULING IMMINENT**

With the Court of Appeal’s ruling on the legal challenge to the previous Government’s plans for Heathrow expansion, campaigners say that whatever the judge’s verdict, the prospects for the project are fast diminishing.

Parties involved in the action are:

* The Mayor of London, London Boroughs of Hillingdon, Hammersmith & Fulham, Richmond, Wandsworth, the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead, Greenpeace UK
* Plan B Earth – an environmental charity
* Friends of the Earth
* Heathrow Hub Ltd.

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

*“Whatever the Court of Appeal’s view about the last government’s procedures in determining its pro-expansion position, prospects for the project are fast diminishing.*

*“With government advisers now saying it will mean restrictions on aviation in the regions and that the project’s noise assessments were problematic, the fundamentals have changed. Just as earlier promises have been revealed as misleading, with construction to take 30 years rather than 5, the £14bn budget more than doubling and the CAA having to reprimand the airport for trying to quadruple the pre-application costs presented to MPs.*

*“So, we’re reaching the point where support for Heathrow expansion needs to be revisited, if not withdrawn altogether.”*

The Court of Appeal will deliver its judgment on Thursday 27th February at 10am (1 & 2).

Parties involved in the action, politicians from all parties and campaigners will gather outside the High Court (Strand, London) from 9am on Thursday for an event supporting those taking action and calling for the Government to now drop Heathrow expansion (3). Politicians include Conservatives, Labour, Liberal Democrats and Green Party.

In recognition of the high-profile nature of the case, the judgment will be live streamed (4).

*ENDS.*

Notes:

1. Interviews from the No 3rd Runway Coalition available both before and after the judgment, via contact details below.
2. The judgment will be ‘handed down’ in Court 71 at the High Court, Strand, London, at 10am on Thursday 27th February <https://www.justice.gov.uk/courts/court-lists/list-cause-rcj#COA-Criminal>
3. Photo opp and visual (peaceful) event at 9.15am sharp.
4. Live-streaming of the judgment will take place via this link from 10am on Thursday 27th February <https://www.judiciary.uk/you-and-the-judiciary/going-to-court/court-of-appeal-home/the-court-of-appeal-civil-division-live-streaming-of-court-hearings/?fbclid=IwAR3OttS4Cj3WtozdoSZjyNFiwDARZoFlPmQwsHsptvGe0ijhD6JUWLLoBoU>

For more information, contact:

* Rob Barnstone on 07806947050 or rob@no3rdrunwaycoalition.co.uk
* Paul Beckford on 07775593928 or paul@no3rdrunwaycoalition.co.uk