

## PRESS RELEASE

16 December 2020



*For immediate use*

### **Heathrow expansion – Supreme Court verdict**

The Supreme Court has today overturned an earlier ruling by the Court of Appeal which stated that the Government failed to address the Paris Agreement when its Heathrow expansion plans were put to Parliament in the Airports National Policy Statement in June 2018.

Reacting, **Paul McGuinness, Chair of the No 3rd Runway Coalition (1), said:**

*“This decision will disappoint a very large number of people. However, it may yet prove irrelevant with so much having changed since Heathrow was recommended for expansion. The assessments on air quality, noise, carbon and the economics are all out of date, with chunks having already been exposed as inadequate.*

*“Moreover, the Government’s climate advisers say expanding Heathrow in the prosperous South East would mean restrictions on aviation in less advantaged regions. And such a drift in policy is not compatible with today’s levelling up agenda.*

*“Heathrow’s campaign is mired in economic self-interest and, rather than allowing it to drift on interminably, we would urge the government to look to the country’s wider interests and drop the Airports National Policy Statement altogether.”*

ENDS.

### **NOTES**

- 1) The No 3<sup>rd</sup> Runway Coalition represents a wide range of community groups, environmental organisations, politicians and trade unions who oppose the expansion of Heathrow airport. A list of our members can be found here: <https://www.no3rdrunwaycoalition.co.uk/members>.

**Due to Tier 3 restrictions, there will be no large demonstration type event outside the Supreme Court. However, representatives are available for immediate reaction to the verdict.**

**Representatives from the No 3<sup>rd</sup> Runway Coalition, including our Chair, Paul McGuinness, is available for interview throughout the day.**

**Reactions available outside the Supreme Court, in west London, or on Zoom/Skype.**

**To arrange an interview, contact:**

**Rob Barnstone - 07806947050, [rob@no3rdrunwaycoalition.co.uk](mailto:rob@no3rdrunwaycoalition.co.uk)**

**OR**

**Paul Beckford - 07775 593928, [paul@no3rdrunwaycoalition.co.uk](mailto:paul@no3rdrunwaycoalition.co.uk)**