

STATEMENT

New Heathrow consultation highlights inadequacies

7 January 2020

For immediate use

Responding to the news that Heathrow will be further consulting on their expansion plans, **Paul McGuinness, Chair of the No Third Runway Coalition, said:**

"We are surprised that Heathrow feels it will be ready to make its application for planning permission to expand in 2020. Their announcement of a further consultation on their expansion plans is tantamount to a recognition that they have already failed to meet the consultation standards expressly required of it in the Airports National Policy Statement.

Their statutory consultation in 2019 lacked vital environmental and health assessments and was wholly inadequate. It did not provide communities with the information required or demonstrate how their plans could meet targets set by parliament on noise, air pollution, carbon emissions and public transport improvements.

Moreover, the entire reasoning behind the project may well now require review. According to government, the total net benefit of this expansion was to be just £3bn. Yet, Heathrow have announced a construction delay of up to three years which, according to the Transport Select Committee, will reduce the total net benefit of Heathrow expansion by £16.3bn - meaning that the project can now only be a net economic loss to the nation."

ENDS.

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