



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Rosalie James

29 September 2016

Rosalie James

Thank you so much for your e-mails. Your dedication to campaigning puts the rest of us to shame!

I've had meetings with representatives of NATS and Heathrow, kindly arranged by parliamentary colleagues, to keep abreast of Heathrow's operations and the impact on its neighbours. The meetings covered information already in the public domain.

You ask about the position of councillors. I know how hard they work to keep abreast of residents' concerns. Councillors exercise their own judgement, as I do, about the best way of acting in their constituents' interests and, come election time, constituents can decide whether, on balance, we deserve another term.

On Heathrow's third runway, I am open-minded. I support increasing airport capacity overall and especially in the South-east. I am not an expert and would never aspire to be thought of as such, so am not in a position to make a definitive judgement on the respective merits of Heathrow or Gatwick, but an expansion of some kind is clearly economically necessary.

On the question of a breach of the NPR, naturally that would be a matter of concern, but I am curious as to how you can be definitive about the altitude of the aircraft you are worried about. Do let me know more.

With every good wish as ever,

Michael Gove

The Rt. Hon. Michael Gove MP
Member of Parliament for Surrey Heath

The Rt. Hon. Michael Gove MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Miss Rosalie James

Lightwater
Surrey GU18

12 October 2016

Dear Mr Gove

Thank you for your letter dated 29 September. If there is any shame to this matter, it is the lack of adequate representation of affected residents by Government and local Councillors.

That the only feedback from your meeting with NATS and HAL is to state that it covered information already in the public domain is extremely disappointing, especially as the majority of information and data regarding changes in aircraft activity in this airspace were obtained as a direct result of the persistence of Community Representatives who challenged HAL and NATS' tedious mantra that nothing had changed. What we anticipated from the meeting was that Ministers would use the data and information provided to them to agree a set of actions that would result in noise issues being addressed, otherwise what was the objective of the meeting?

In terms of the lack of proper engagement or representation by our county and local Councillors, you state that it is for them to *'exercise their own judgement about the best way of acting on their constituents' behalf'*. The point, Mr Gove, is that they have failed to act at all. We have a County Councillor who actively supported HALs position and told residents they were wrong in stating things had changed. We have two local Councillors who attend the HCNF but to what purpose? We have never once had any feedback of what they do with information, what, therefore, is the point of their attendance? SHBC obviously has an interest in the HCNF otherwise it would not field representatives. In the face of the irrefutable data provided detailing changes to airspace activity, all Councillors have simply chosen to remain silent. We are not seeking to apportion blame, simply to demand that both sides of the argument are clearly represented. If it is beyond the remit of Councillors to represent both affected as well as non-affected residents, then let that be made clear once and for all.

You state that constituents can decide whether MPs and Councillors deserve another term. You may wish to reflect that in the most recent Lightwater election, the conservative candidate won by a very slim margin. Rob Beere was narrowly defeated and as someone who has worked tirelessly on behalf of residents on aircraft noise as well as other issues, and given my own experience of the lack of democratic representation to date, I shall indeed be reflecting on who is worthy of my vote in future.

In terms of the breach of NPR, now 3 in as many weeks by a single airline, the altitude information was gained by using Heathrow's own Webtrak system. (<http://webtrak5.bksv.com/lhr>)

Yours sincerely



Rosalie James
Chair – Aircraft Noise 3 Villages#

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House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Miss Rosalie James

Lightwater
Surrey GU18

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Thank you for your letter dated 29 September. If there is any shame to this matter, it is that residents should be forced to campaign in light of inadequate representation by Government and local Councillors.

That the only feedback from your meeting with NATS and HAL is to state that it covered information already in the public domain is extremely disappointing, especially as the majority of information and data regarding changes in aircraft activity in this airspace were obtained as a direct result of the persistence of Community Representatives who challenged HAL and NATS' tedious mantra that nothing had changed. What we anticipated from the meeting was that Ministers would use the data and information provided to them to agree a set of actions that would result in noise issues being addressed, otherwise what was the objective of the meeting?

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