Community News

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CCH

From your Community Campaign (Hart)

Church Crookham Special

Planning application to expand flight operations at Farnborough Airport

As you may be aware, Farnborough Airport Limited (FAL)* have applied to our neighbouring Rushmoor Borough Council (RBC) to be allowed to increase the number of flights per year, disproportionately weighted to more than doubling flights at weekends.

What's this about?

Farnborough currently operates around 33,000 flights per year, although they are permitted up to 50,0000.

FAL would like to **increase** this limit to **70,000** flights, which if achieved would more than **double** the number of air movements that we experience today.

Perhaps more impactful in the shorter term is the application to more than **double** the number of **weekend** and bank holiday flights, up from 8,900 per year to **18,900 flights** per year. That's an average of over 360 take-offs or landings every weekend – though of course some weekends will be busier.

The Community Campaign are aware that for many local residents, especially those of us living under the flight path, this is a very unwelcome development.

While we may be proud to have the home of British aviation on our doorstep, that doesn't mean that FAL should be allowed to further erode the quality of life in the Church Crookham area. They will clearly remain a viable operation without this increase.

Have your say

If you feel that your quality of life will be adversely impacted by such an increase in the number of flights at the airport, you may wish to lodge an objection with Rushmoor's planning department.

Heartfelt objections really do influence the decisions of planning committees. Of course, in the interest of balance, if you want to see more aircraft flying low over our heads, you can equally write a supportive comment to them.

If you wish to object, then this may be on the grounds of the Climate Emergency declared by Rushmoor Borough Council, by your Hart District Council and even the UK government. With an average of only **3 passengers per plane**, private jet aircraft are by far the most excessive carbon polluting form of transport.

You may also be concerned about the increased air pollution, which is in itself a legitimate planning issue. Then of course you may wish to object on the grounds of loss of amenity, due to the increase in noise annoyance from more overhead flights, especially at weekends and on Bank Holidays.



Respond by 4 December

Please see over the page for details of how to respond to this planning application. It is important that you **make your views known to Rushmoor** Borough Council who will determine this application.

You may have already told FAL what you think at one of their showcase events held in the area. Sadly that won't be fully reported to RBC – It is this planning application to Rushmoor that matters.

* Farnborough Airport Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Macquarie Asset Management, the Australian company that took over **Thames Water**.

Ways to make your views known to Rushmoor Borough Council

Farnborough Airport's application to increase the number of annual and weekend air movements is registered by Rushmoor's planning department with reference no: 23/00794/REVPP.

Respond ONLINE

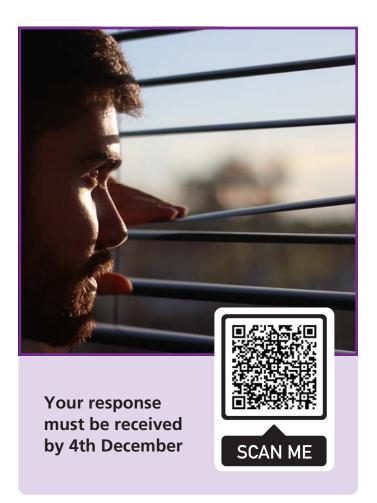
If you wish to comment direct to Rushmoor on-line, you can search for the application on their planning portal entering the above reference number at **publicaccess.rushmoor.gov.uk/online-applications** or to jump straight there, **scan** the adjacent QR-code.

BY POST or BY HAND

If you wish to make a more detailed submission, you can write to Rushmoor's planning department at:

Planning Department Council Offices Farnborough Road Farnborough GU14 7JU

You must quote the planning reference number 23/00794/REVPP and clearly state whether you are writing an **Objection**, or a letter of **Support**.



Examples of valid Objections

- Disproportionate carbon emissions per passenger mile flown in contradiction to Rushmoor Borough Council's own declared Climate Emergency.
- Lack of proven business case, as Farnborough are still a long way off their current limit of 50,000 air movements per year.
- Additional noise disturbance from increased flights especially at weekends and bank holidays.
- Noise annoyance stemming from individual flight movements rather than additional background noise.
- Increase in air pollution further exacerbating local air quality issues.
- The airport is already a viable operation without this increase and therefore the economic need does not outweigh the above concerns.

Your Hart local ward Councillors

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