Dear MP,

I am writing to you as your constituent and as a member of local environmental organisation [Zero West](https://zerowest.org/) with regards to the planned expansion on Bristol Airport.

I am asking for you to publicly declare that the expansion of Bristol Airport should now be scrapped.

Since the airport expansion was first considered there has been a seismic shift in thinking and understanding about climate change which began with the UN report on impact of global warming of 1.5 degrees c issued in November 2018.

Last week the Committee on Climate Change released its report to government on how to achieve Net Zero emissions by 2050 and crucially it said that the growth in aviation must now be constrained.

Following on from that report and in a letter to a pressure group Plan B, the Department for Transport (DfT) aviation head Caroline Low said: “It may be necessary to consider the CCC’s recommended policy approach for aviation.”

Climate Change

Bristol Airport is already a significant local contributor towards global warming through increased vehicle movement to and from the airport and aircraft movements. Expansion will significantly increase these emissions and is completely contrary to the need to limit air travel.

The Bristol Airport planning application states that in 2017 baseline figure for vehicle emissions is 184.45 (ktCO2/yr). In 2026 the future baseline figures for vehicle emissions is 214.23. This is an increase of 16% in the annual level of vehicle emissions.

Three of the Local Authorities in the West of England have already passed climate emergency motions. They have already adopted targets that are in line with or more ambitious than the national targets in the Climate Change Act. This expected increase of 16% in the annual level of vehicle emissions is completely at odds with these declarations.

The West of England’s intention is to incorporate sustainable transportation and surface access measures in particular which minimise use of the private car, maximise the use of sustainable transport modes and seek to meet modal shift targets.

Public transport to and from Bristol Airport was only at 12.5% in 2017 and is expected to be 15% at 10 million passengers per annum and no better at 12 (mppa).

In 2017 aviation carbon emissions at Bristol Airport were 746.77 (ktCO2/yr) and in 2026 they will be 1,183.87 (ktCO2/yr) an increase of 59%.

It is clear that plans to expand Bristol Airport need to be scrapped. The West of England is a growing leader in the transition to a low carbon economy. We must take the lead and demonstrate that expanding aviation in our area is not required.

I ask you to take a stand, declare that the airport expansion should be scrapped and demand a review of the planning application in light of significant national and local policy changes.

I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely

Email:
Telephone:
Website: <https://zerowest.org/>