

# YOUR LONDON AIRPORT *Gatwick*

Gatwick Airport Limited  
8th Floor Destinations  
Gatwick Airport  
West Sussex  
RH6 0JW

## **By email**

16<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Dear Neil,

### **GATWICK AIRPORT APPLICATION OF LOCAL RULE A - TEMPORARY CAPACITY DECLARATION FOR JULY AND AUGUST 2022**

In accordance with Article 3 of the Airports Slot Allocation Regulations 2006 and Local Rule A, in the context of the continuing impact of Covid-19, Gatwick hereby declares mandatory temporary scheduling limits for the airport, in order to operate a safe environment and maximise passenger outcomes.

Gatwick is applying a mandatory temporary reduction to daily runway movement coordination capacity limits due to the specific impacts of operational issues post Covid-19, and in order to avoid serious health and safety risks which Gatwick considers would arise if capacity was not reduced and require ACL to implement these for schedule coordination in line with the Local Rule A process.

The impacts of Covid-19 on the aviation industry over the last two years have been well documented; Gatwick has suffered more than other in the industry with traffic numbers lower in 2021 than 2020. This sustained period of restrictions and inactivity has impacted the overall capability of the eco-system at the airport – particularly with ground handling companies, catering companies and PRM operations. Gatwick has started to recover this year and has successfully reopened the South Terminal and is now operating at close to 800 daily ATMS.

However, during the May half term period, carriers operating from Gatwick experienced a number of serious service failings. These included terminal congestion and check-in overfills, short notice cancellations, poor on time performance and lengthy inbound baggage deliveries. GAL has had to deploy contingencies to avoid safety events and overcrowding in the terminals with contingencies including the suspension of the inter terminal shuttle to ensure the safe management of passengers queueing in landside areas. In addition, the police were deployed on occasions during this period to ensure order was maintained.

As we look forward towards the peak summer holiday period, the airport must ensure good & safe levels of service to passengers. GAL has reviewed the campus wide resourcing levels and the ramp up of flights and has determined that intervention is required. As the recovery continues through the holiday period of July and August, the schedule needs to be coordinated to a level reflective of the current operational capability to ensure a continued safe operation and mitigate the risk of uncontrolled demand increases leading to dangerous levels of congestion or crowding levels.

As such we have reviewed the current operational capability at the airport and believe a mandatory daily movement cap is required, we also request that airlines operate a schedule that can be delivered within operators' current capability. Applying a daily cap, rather than an hourly limit, ensures airlines can make reductions when their operation is most at risk whilst ensuring flights which can be safely operated are allowed to operate.

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Below are the temporary runway scheduling limits for application from 1 July 2022 until 31 August 2022 (inclusive). These limits will be reviewed every 4 weeks, including whether there is a need for an extension of this temporary declaration beyond August, or the extent to which capacity has been recovered at the end of July.

### **Gatwick Runway Scheduling Limits Summer 2022: Temporary Capacity Limit for Local Rule A**

#### **Total Daily Runway Scheduling Limit**

<b>Dates applicable</b>	<b>Daily Runway Scheduling Limit</b>
1 – 31 July:	825 Movements
1 – 31 August:	850 movements

Limits to be applied across every day of the week. All other declared limits remain as previously declared.

We thank ACL for working with us to agree the in-season temporary change to the airport's capacity for July and August 2022 to support the airport and carriers in ensuring a continued recovery and a safe and reliable service for passenger.