

HEATHROW AIRPORT HEALTH RISKS FROM POOR AIR QUALITY

From the "Stop Heathrow Polluting Us" Campaign Group

Your health and well-being is at risk from air pollution from Heathrow Airport detected in central London (including North Kensington and Marylebone Road).

The COVID-19 pandemic has sadly shown that having an underlying health condition can mean the difference between life and death.

London's population is exposed to pollution levels that exceed the levels mandated by the European Union and the World Health Organisation. This can lead to people of all ages developing chronic diseases as well as stress and difficulties concentrating.

A study published in January 2020 shows that air pollution from Heathrow Airport is being blown more than 11 miles into central London.

Researchers from King's College London have, for the first time, measured ultra-fine particles across four major European cities including London.

They found airports were a significant source of ultra-fine air pollution particles.

The study, published in Environment International, found London had the highest concentration of ultra-fine particles compared to other cities, with

the greatest concentration coming when wind was blowing from Heathrow Airport towards the city centre.

Most air pollution studies have looked at the levels of larger particles, smaller than 2.5 micrometres, but this latest study looked at smaller ultra-fine particles of less than 0.1 micrometres in size.

The smaller the particle, the deeper it can penetrate into the lungs, and ultra-fine particles have been linked to brain cancer.

Air pollution from aviation is not limited to fine and ultra-fine particles but also includes NOx, CO, HC, Sox.

Flight paths over densely populated areas provide a lethal cocktail of air and noise pollution which seriously affects the mental and physical health and well-being of people in London.

Protecting the mental and physical health and well-being of people living, working, studying or visiting London has never been more critical.



Mental and Physical Health Impact	Air pollution	Noise pollution
Ischemic heart disease	x	x
Stroke	x	x
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	x	
Asthma	x	
Lung cancer	x	
Brain cancer	x	
Premature Deaths	x	
Diabetes	x	
Cognitive decline	x	x
Obesity	x	
Arterial hypertension		x
Sleep disturbance		x
Cognitive response		x
Depression		x
Annoyance		x

Impact on health of air and noise pollution.

We must oppose Heathrow Airport's proposals to change flight paths to fly directly over our area and to significantly increase the number of flights directly over London.

HEATHROW STILL INTENT ON PURSUING EXPANSION

- The planned Heathrow Airport consultation due in April 2020 has been postponed.
- However, Heathrow Airport is resolved on introducing new flight paths over our area and seeking approval for 700 additional flights a week (primarily between 5:00 and 7:00am), and wants to commence as soon as possible.
- Heathrow Airport has continued to work tirelessly during this national health crisis, ironically to progress its toxic expansion plans: the new flight paths, the increase in annual flights over London, Independent Parallel Approaches (IPA) and the third runway proposal.
- On 7 and 8 October 2020, Heathrow Airport will seek to reverse the decision made by the Court of Appeal in Feb 2020, by taking the case to the Supreme Court. It wants to challenge the Appeal Court finding that the Heathrow expansion does not meet the targets in the Paris Climate accord.
- In parallel Heathrow Airport will push for the introduction of the Independent Parallel Approaches (IPA) – simultaneous landing on both existing runways.
- It will seek permission for 25,000 extra flights a year (700+ extra flights a week) on top of the existing 480,000 flights that, pre-COVID, Heathrow handled.
- British Airways and other major carriers may consolidate their operations, including moving many of their long-haul flights from Gatwick to Heathrow.
- There is now a significant risk that Heathrow will want to exploit this additional capacity by increasing the concentration of long-haul passenger and cargo traffic through Heathrow Airport.
- COVID-19 gives Heathrow Airport a

golden opportunity to exploit the situation to knock out competition from other airports in the South, and regional airports which have struggled over the past months, thus strengthening Heathrow's historic structural, subsidised monopoly and resulting in more flights over London.

Please register your interest on our website so that we can update you on further developments.

Visit: stopheathrowpollutingus.org

