



Aviation Communities Summit 2020: from the ground up

The Key objectives

An understanding of the communities affected by airport dependency and the economic and social impact of reduced activity at these locations on livelihoods, families and businesses

Discussion around co-designing a targeted set of proposals to support communities and alleviate more costly future economic innovations

Discussion on the formation of a single set of asks from the Government and gaining agreement to explore an Aviation Community Fund

Commitment to create, or repurpose, a cross-party group to champion the forgotten aviation communities



Hounslow Council and the West London Alliance would like to draw your attention to a national campaign and invite you to a Summit which aims to secure additional funding to help support aviation communities.

This was prompted by the results of an Oxford Economics Report commissioned by the Council. The report outlines the stark impact and hardships communities across the region are facing due to the reduced activity of Heathrow Airport.

However, this isn't an issue isolated to West London. Many sub-regional economies are significantly dependent on aviation. Whilst public opinion is varied on the activity of airlines, there is a lack of awareness around the reliance of communities on airports and their supply chains for their livelihoods and therefore the looming hardships they are likely to face.

To illustrate this, the Oxford Economics Report concludes that communities in Hounslow will see a loss of some 43,000 jobs in the years ahead, and this is felt particularly acutely amongst BAME and poorer communities. The cost to the local economy in Hounslow alone is likely to be in the order of £1bn in the years ahead.

This is now about survival for many families whose livelihoods depend on the sector and need help now, especially as Government support through the Job Retention Scheme ends in March 2021. ***Airports are not just about airlines.***

Many aviation communities are amongst the most deprived in England. It is imperative that these communities are supported to prevent rising unemployment from spiralling into homelessness, with associated impact on children and families, mental health, and wellbeing.

Communities across the country are facing difficulties in responding to the pandemic. Aviation communities are feeling this particularly so, and the sector and its supply chain is amongst the hardest hit and least likely to recover at pace. This necessitates a common response from those home to aviation and requires targeted investment and support from Government now. Collective voices are more powerful than lone voices and that is why we are contacting you now to come together to work collaboratively with each other and Government in pursuit of solutions.

Together, we can support aviation communities from the ground up and ensure they are not forgotten.

Aviation Community Fund

Given the economic impact and likely hardships that aviation communities like yours are facing, we would like you to join us in exploring with Government the introduction of an Aviation Community Fund. This fund would:

- › Support local communities located around airports across the UK
- › Create investment in, often underfunded and forgotten communities in need of levelling up nationally
- › Operate as a small contribution from passenger tickets as was under active consideration as part of the Development Consent Order for third runway.
- › Acknowledge the present challenges of the aviation sector and travel industry by exploring with HM Treasury and DfT deferred implementation
- › Have a light ring fence around it to be targeted towards interventions that support the aviation sector as a whole and local communities e.g. public transport accessibility around airports and the retraining of the local population to access jobs of the future

Hounslow Council and the West London Alliance have a long history of collaboration and partnership working, taking a responsible approach to the targeted interventions that will be needed to assist in maintaining higher levels of economic output. We now want to broaden the conversation nationally.

The political administrations are working collaboratively, cross party, to identify and remedy shared challenges for the collective benefit of communities. We now wish to extend this to all aviation communities and explore this and other ideas that could form a core proposition to the Government.

Aviation Communities Summit 2020: 'From the Ground Up'

Aviation communities are often forgotten in the debate around airports and airlines, but they are acutely affected by the decline in activity and often have the least resilience to respond. In Hounslow, this is disproportionately felt amongst poorer and BAME communities. These issues need to be debated and solutions found to provide immediate help and support but also ensure that as the aviation sector moves to recovery in time, that it still has a workforce on the ground able to get it flying again.

This is why the London Borough of Hounslow has decided to host the inaugural Aviation Communities Summit. The Summit will be half a day of discussion with three sessions focusing on:

Session 1: From the ground up: the meaning of "airport communities"

Session 2: Doing nothing: the economic & social consequences

- › In practice: the case of West London

Session 3: Solutions: giving our communities new wings

- › Revenue and infrastructure investment, and the Airport Community Fund
- › Cross-party commitments

When: 24th November, 2-4pm

Where: Online

Please use the [link here](#) to register for the summit.

