

Strategic Aviation Special Interest Group of the Local Government Association

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Local Authorities & Aviation, Regional and Industry News, 15 December - 21 December

Regional News	Industry News
15 December 2014 - Aviation Minister Robert Goodwill has visited Luton Airport to see how the airport has been preparing for the winter.	14 December 2014 - The UK Civil Aviation Authority have released a statement about the airspace disruption which took place on Friday 12 December.
16 December 2014 - Work has begun on a £500,000 education centre at Stansted Airport.	15 December 2014 - The UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and NATS have agreed the establishment of an independent inquiry following the disruption caused by the failure in air traffic management systems on the afternoon of Friday 12 December 2014.
16 December 2014 - The airline operator Turkish Airlines services between Istanbul and Manchester Airport will increase from spring 2015.	15 December 2014 - A report by OAG (formerly Official Airline Guide) states that the global airline industry can be expected to save \$7 bn next year due to a 20 per cent drop in jet fuel prices.
16 December 2014 - The Department for Transport (DfT) has said that it will 'explore options to move forward' on a decision for the Manston Airport site, following a meeting chaired by Transport Minister John Hayes.	17 December 2014 - Gatwick Airport has become the first airport to implement Amadeus' cloud-based system that will allow it to increase the number of flights and passengers it handles.
17 December 2014 - A group of Thanet Councillors staged a 'walkout' during a meeting about the future of the closed Manston Airport.	17 December 2014 - Heathrow Airport Holdings Limited has completed the sale of Aberdeen, Glasgow and Southampton airports to a consortium formed by Macquarie, Ferrovial, and Real Assets.
17 December 2014 - Member of Parliament for Reigate Crispin Blunt has written that Gatwick Airport Limited (GAL) has refused to appear publically before MPs at the House of Commons to answer questions on their second runway proposal.	18 December 2014 - The UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) are asking for responses to developments on their website and environmental portal. Comments are requested by email to environment@caa.co.uk by Friday 27 February 2015.
17 December 2014 - The Leader of Thanet council, Councillor Iris Johnston has rejected calls for her to stand down after she admitted making donations to Manston Airport supporters groups.	19 December 2014 - Chief Secretary to the Treasury Danny Alexander has written to UK airlines calling for them to pass on fuel price savings to consumers by cutting fuel surcharges or reducing ticket prices.
18 December 2014 - Robin Hood Airport Doncaster Sheffield have signed a contract with the travel company TUI which will see the travel firm operating Thomson and First Choice holidays from the airport.	
18 December 2014 - Speaking at the Airports Commission Gatwick Airport public evidence session the Member of Parliament for Reigate Crispin Blunt said that a second runway at the site would result in 'irrevocable disaster'.	
19 December 2014 - Southampton Airport have released a statement saying that it will continue to operate as normal after its sale by Heathrow Airport Holdings Ltd.	
19 December 2014 - Manchester Airports Group and Birmingham-based logistics property specialist Stoford have lodged plans for a 260,000 sq ft logistics unit at the £800m Airport City development.	
19 December 2014 - The Leader of Wandsworth Council Councillor Ravi Govindia has written to the Chair of the Airports Commission Sir Howard Davies requesting a complete response to issues on aircraft noise, night flights and the viability of Heathrow Airport's 'respite' proposals.	
21 December 2014 - Repairs to a barrier on an M11 slip road may cause disruption to drivers during the Christmas period.	
Media News	
9 December 2014 - Heathrow Airport have published the results of their Fly Quiet League for quarter 3.	
17 December 2014 - The holiday operator Saga has called on the Government to compensate the passengers whose trips were delayed or cancelled due to last the disruption.	
19 December 2014 - Owners of the former Manston Airport site Trevor Cartner and Chris Musgrave are preparing to reveal their plans for the 800-acre site.	
21 December 2014 - A report by researchers at Cranfield and Edinburgh Universities has found that British passengers who live outside the south-east of England and beyond easy reach of Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted airports are now more likely to transfer in Amsterdam or Dubai, to avoid the UK's busiest airports.	

SASIG works for Local Authorities in a strategic manner on national aviation policy so as to reconcile economic, social and environmental issues.

The following sources are also used in this bulletin: Air & Business Travel News, ACI Airports Council International, Aviation International, BAA Ltd, DeHavilland, Environmental Data Services, International Air Transport Association, BBC, The Independent, The Standard, The Telegraph, Transportinfo, UK Parliament.