

LOCAL AREA FACTS AND VIEWS

The importance of Heathrow to local jobs

- Heathrow Airport employs 72,000 people directly and supports another 100,000 jobs in the local area
- Nearly half of the 72,000 people employed at the airport come from the five boroughs directly surrounding the airport – Ealing, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Slough and Spelthorne
- As many as one in ten people in employment in Hounslow work at Heathrow
- Average percentage of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance in London = 3.4%. Average percentage of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance claimants near Heathrow = 2.3%

Local Authority	Total number of people in employment	Number of people employed at Heathrow	Percentage of people in employment who work at Heathrow	Proportion who work at Heathrow
Ealing	142,700	5,312	3.7%	1 in 27
Hillingdon	120,400	8,254	7.7%	1 in 15
Hounslow	107,200	10,695	10.0%	1 in 10
Slough	59,700	3,015	5.0%	1 in 20
Spelthorne	45,700	5,240	11.5%	1 in 9
Total	475,700	32,516	6.8%	1 in 15

Source: Official Labour Market Statistics and Heathrow Employment Survey (Updated table Jan 2008)

The importance of Heathrow to local skills

- Heathrow is a major skills provider in the local area, with more than 1,000 people on airport training programmes
- Heathrow's engineering apprenticeship scheme has been running for almost thirty years and BAA has recently launched apprenticeships in retail and construction
- Apprentices are offered the opportunity to gain nationally recognised qualifications and courses are designed to progress into a Foundation Degree

The importance of Heathrow to the local economy

- A recent study by Deloitte's showed that Heathrow's global gateway status plays a key role in attracting globally mobile and high value-added businesses to the Thames Valley and West London area
- The same study concluded that it was vital to the region that Heathrow did not become a source of competitive disadvantage
- Foreign Direct Investment contributes more than £52 billion each year to the London economy and supports more than 500,000 jobs

Growth at Heathrow

- Growth at Heathrow will not go ahead unless there is no more noise than in 2002, unless air quality meets EU limits and unless there are improvements to public transport. This is not growth at any cost, this is growth within strict environmental limits

- Modern aircraft are far quieter than 40 years ago - e.g. the Airbus A380 is rated as generating only 25% of the noise levels of the B747- 400
- Between 1980 and 1994, 2 million people experienced noise in excess of 57 decibels around Heathrow. Today, that number has been reduced to 300,000
- The UK 'Sustainable Aviation' strategy commits aircraft manufacturers to improve fuel efficiency by 50%, reduce Nitrous Oxide emissions by 80% and external noise of new aircraft by 50% by 2020 relative to their equivalents in 2000
- BAA is working with local councils and residents to ensure that if growth is given the go-ahead, disruption will be minimised through good planning and generous compensation schemes

Local residents supporting growth at Heathrow

- A recent Populus poll (October 2007) of local residents living in and around Heathrow revealed half of all residents who responded are in favour of a third runway
- Local people felt that the benefits of Heathrow for their community outweighed the disadvantages
- The poll showed that residents were more concerned about crime (36%), congestion (19%) and council tax (16%) than aircraft noise (12%)

“I saw what happened to the community in East London when the Docks closed. Unemployment shot through the roof and house prices went through the floor. Don't let that happen to the Heathrow area.”

Clive Soley, local resident and Campaign Director, Future Heathrow

“In planning infrastructure for roads, rail and air for the future, it is the disruption and blight that it causes to some residents which, not surprisingly, becomes the focus of protest. But I don't want my children's children to experience a wasteland in this area, which they will do if Heathrow continues to decline.”

John Gurney, local resident and Amicus representative, Heathrow

“Many local residents support expansion at Heathrow and I am one of them. Our voices also need to be heard. The long term prosperity of the local area is at stake.”

Tony Flowers, local resident, Ashford, Middlesex

“I have lived in the area for many years and used to work at the airport. Many local families depend on Heathrow for their livelihood. Heathrow is important for the economy of the area and important for Britain.”

Terry Jukes, local resident, Staines



Room 1042, Queens' Building, Heathrow Airport, Hounslow, Middlesex, TW6 1BU
T: 020 87573936 **F:** 020 87573937 **E:** info@futureheathrow.org **W:** www.futureheathrow.org

Members: AMICUS (UNITE), ATAG, BAA, BALPA, BAR UK, BATA, Bmi, British Airways, CBI, GMB, (UNITE) IATA, London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, London First, London Heathrow Airline Operators Committee, London First, Thames Valley Economic Partnership, TUC, T&GWU (UNITE), Virgin Atlantic Airways, West London Business.