

**President: Rt.Hon. the Lord Randall of Uxbridge Kt.PC.**

The Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP  
Secretary of State for Transport  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA



21<sup>st</sup> December 2020

Dear Mr Shapps

The Colne Valley Regional Park remains fundamentally opposed to the current expansion plans being promoted by Heathrow Airport Limited, especially its proposal for a third runway. You can read our position statement on Heathrow expansion at [https://www.colnevalleypark.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/CVRP-Heathrow-Position-Statement\\_Apr2020.pdf](https://www.colnevalleypark.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/CVRP-Heathrow-Position-Statement_Apr2020.pdf)

I write to you following the Supreme Court ruling to uphold Heathrow Airport Limited's counter challenge, meaning that the Airports National Policy Statement (ANPS) is now deemed to be lawful.

Lawful it may be, but the world has changed dramatically since Chris Grayling made his original decision. The aviation industry has been devastated by the Coronavirus pandemic, causing an unprecedented contraction of air travel. Attitudes to modes of travel generally have fundamentally and permanently altered. Climate change has been properly recognised as a threat, and the urgent need to tackle it universally acknowledged. The vital importance of green spaces for health and well-being have been highlighted as never before.

In our view, these expansion proposals belong to an entirely different era, and are now completely obsolete. And, for the same reason, so is the ANPS.

We hope the Government will live up to its stated environmental aspirations, scrap the ANPS altogether, and rein in the relentlessly commercial ambitions that will do so much permanent harm to the region around Heathrow Airport.

Yours etc

John Whitby  
Chairman

**Colne Valley Park Community Interest Company**

Registered Office: c/o Colne Valley Park Visitor Centre, Denham Court Drive, Denham,  
Buckinghamshire, UB9 5PG  
[www.colnevalleypark.org.uk](http://www.colnevalleypark.org.uk)

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CC:

• Robert Courts MP. Parliamentary Under Secretary of State  
Constituency MP's who cover the Colne Valley Regional Park:

- Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP
- David Simmonds MP
- Rt. Hon John McDonnell MP
- Adam Afriyie MP
- Tan Dhesi MP
- Joy Morrissey MP
- Rt. Hon Dame Cheryl Gillan MP
- Gagan Mohindra MP
- Rt. Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP

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