



LONDON
BIGGIN HILL
AIRPORT

Biggin Hill's Future

London Biggin Hill Airport

Biggin Hill is London's best Business and General Aviation airport. The airport is home to 65 companies and is one of the largest employers in the Bromley area, providing jobs for over 1,000 people. Biggin Hill airport has been identified as a strategic growth area by the Mayor of London – one that could create 2,300 jobs over the next twenty years.

The airport's management see its future as a business and general aviation airport – every business aircraft based here creates eight jobs. We are therefore proposing to expand business activity at the airport whilst staying within the current airport boundaries.

Biggin's consultation

Prior to submitting their application to the Council, the airport conducted a wide ranging consultation on their proposals to reduce noise and create jobs. Over 15,000 people responded, of which over 12,000 were residents of the London Borough of Bromley:

- 66% of respondents supported our proposed new opening hours, 17% supported with reservations and just 17% opposed
- 88% of respondents supported our noise reduction proposals, 10% supported with reservations and just 4% opposed

Following this local support, the airport put their proposals to the Council.

The proposal

The airport is seeking the Council's agreement to vary the airport's operating hours, which the existing lease allows. This application is being made because the airport needs more flexible opening hours, in order to be competitive and remain as a small, business and general aviation airport. If granted, this change will attract more business aircraft owners to base themselves at Biggin Hill, providing trade to new and existing businesses at Biggin Hill, increasing local employment. It will ensure the success of Biggin Hill, and facilitate updating the noise control of the airport in a Noise Action Plan that will lead to a 50% reduction in the size of the authorised noise footprint over the period of the plan.

Current opening hours are:

- 6:30am – 10pm Mon - Fri
- 9am – 8pm Sat & Sun

Biggin Hill's proposed new opening hours are:

- 6:30am – 11pm Mon - Sat
- 8am – 11pm Sun and public holidays

A plan to reduce noise

In return for the extended hours, the airport will introduce a new Noise Action Plan and other measures with an intention to reduce the agreed airport noise footprint by 50%, including

- No increase in flights over 2010 levels without reviewing the Noise Action Plan
- No new runways
- No scheduled and holiday charter airline services
- No expansion beyond the existing airport boundary
- New noise monitoring equipment with full public access to the data, and new noise limits enforced by the Council

- Better adherence to approved flight paths by light aviation
- New approach procedures keeping planes higher for longer
- Cap on the number of early morning and late evening flights
- Phasing out noisier aircraft

With more flexible opening hours and the implementation of this new Noise Action Plan, the proposals will create jobs and reduce noise for local residents.