**No 3rd Runway Coalition**

26 January 2025

*For immediate use*

**REEVES COMMENTS ON HEATHROW EXPANSION**

The Chancellor Rachel Reeves all but confirmed this morning that she will announce support for a third runway at Heathrow this week, although she suggested the plans had not yet been signed off by Cabinet.

Ahead of a formal announcement, **Paul McGuinness, Chair of the No 3rd Runway Coalition, said:**

*“If, as is now expected, that the Chancellor announces support for Heathrow expansion this week, then perhaps this is not such good news for Heathrow as some may think.*

*“Expansions at other London airports undermine the case for Heathrow’s uniquely complicated and costly third runway. It has certainly just become even riskier, if not un-investable.*

*“The Airports Commission framed extra capacity as a choice between Gatwick or Heathrow, and not only is Gatwick’s expansion now also likely to also be approved, but so too Luton's – joining Stansted and London City expansions to create extra annual capacity for 60 million more passengers. This is more than a third runway at Heathrow was ever going to offer!*

*“At least two of these expansions will be up and running before Heathrow’s even gets through the planning phase. Had these expansions been in the pipeline a few years ago, the Airports Commission might not have recommended Heathrow’ s expansion at all.*

ENDS.

Notes to editors:

Briefing note on why Heathrow expansion fail Labour’s four tests

<https://www.no3rdrunwaycoalition.co.uk/_files/ugd/8b8ad1_e6d07dd036b540bc94a25b6ba19579ce.pdf>

**Representatives from the No 3rd Runway Coalition are available for further comment or interview around the Chancellor’s announcement. Please contact Rob Barnstone on 07806 947050 or** [**rob@no3rdrunwaycoalition.co.uk**](mailto:rob@no3rdrunwaycoalition.co.uk) **to arrange.**