**No 3rd Runway Coalition**

27 January 2025

*For immediate use*

**ED MILIBAND – HEATHROW EXPANSION WON’T TAKE PLACE UNLESS IT IS LINE WITH CARBON BUDGET**

Ahead of an expected announcement by Chancellor Rachel Reeves on Wednesday, where it is expected she will announce support for a third runway at Heathrow, Ed Miliband, the Energy and Net Zero Secretary just told Parliament’s Environmental Audit Committee that “any aviation expansion must be justified within carbon budget and if it cannot be justified then it will not take place” (1).

**Paul McGuinness, Chair of the No 3rd Runway Coalition, said:**

“If, as expected, both Gatwick and Luton are given the go ahead for expansion, capacity in the South East will have been increased by 60 million passengers a year, which is more than Heathrow’s expansion would have been able to provide.

“Even if Heathrow were to submit an application for their own expansion, the Energy Secretary has flagged up our legally binding carbon commitments and the strong possibility that there won’t be any room in left the carbon budget for their infrastructure to be used, if ever built.”

ENDS.

Notes to editors:

1. <https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/166b2e76-060a-42d1-8e0a-41e2bdf7c217> Miliband comments at 17:29
2. Briefing note on why Heathrow expansion fails Labour’s four tests

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