No 3rd Runway Coalition

29 January 2025

**For immediate use**

**REACTION TO REEVES COMMENT ON HEATHROW EXPANSION**

Reacting to today’s announcement on Heathrow expansion by Chancellor Rachel Reeves, **Paul McGuinness, Chair of the No 3rd Runway Coalition, said:**

“We assume Heathrow expansion was chosen because it has become the totemic mission impossible.

“Yet, the plan is not only eye-wateringly expensive. It entails flattening villages and tunnelling over the M25’s busiest junction to increase Heathrow’s size by an area that is larger than Birmingham airport, to fly as many extra planes as Gatwick currently flies – effectively to build the UK’s second largest airport next to the first. And all in the most overflown and densely packed residential region in the UK.

“And with the slew of other expected expansions in the South East now increasing aviation capacity by 60 million passengers each year - which is more than Heathrow expansion ever offered - Heathrow expansion is now less investable and less possible than ever".

ENDS.

**To arrange further comment or interviews please contact:**