**UK greenlights Heathrow airport expansion**

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London Mayor Sadiq Khan, a long opponent of expansion, said the government's decision to expand Heathrow was not only a "wrong decision" for London, but for all Britain, and would be "devastating for air quality" across the city.

**Heathrow's** third runway could trigger take-off for the Tees Valley's growth plans.

A Crawley campaign group will continue to guard against expansion at Gatwick Airport following the Government's decision to expand **Heathrow**.

"**Heathrow** will be a key linchpin in enabling post-Brexit trade", said Scuoler. "The important role aviation plays in supporting Britain's global trade status has been side-lined".

The UK Department for Transport said the government's decision would boost the economy, and the government said the project could create 77,000 jobs.

"This decision is a long overdue step in the right direction", Interim Chair of the National Infrastructure Commission, Lord Adonis, said in a statement in response.

"Airport expansion is vital for the economic future of the whole of the United Kingdom". Nobody knows what the terms of the UK's exit from the European Union will be, but they do know that it will nearly certainly involve a freedom to follow in the footsteps of our forefathers and get in ships and build new trading relationships.

Jenkins also warned that Brexit could slow construction and make it hard to hire European workers for the project.

The decision on Tuesday caused dismay among villagers living in communities in and around **Heathrow**.

"I'm committed to fighting **Heathrow** expansion..."

The expansion will provide economic benefits to passengers and the wider economy worth up to £61 billion.

In agreement with the Airports Commission's recommendation, the United Kingdom government offered their endorsement of the **Heathrow** expansion over adding a second runway to Gatwick Airport south of London.

Mr Sharma was previously against the third runway development, saying it was "unsympathetic to local residents".

Conservative bosses were forced to announce the party would not fight the by-election triggered by Zac Goldsmith in protest over the third runway.

Windsor and Maidenhead Council, which is in the Prime **Minister's** constituency, along with Hillingdon, Richmond and Wandsworth local authorities put the Government on notice in March that they would go to the courts if a third runway was approved.

"Expansion of **Heathrow** is the only option that will connect all the United Kingdom to global growth, helping to build a stronger and fairer economy".

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