

# Airport Operators Association – May 2015 MPs Parliamentary Panel Survey

## METHODOLOGY NOTE

ComRes interviewed 127 MPs online and by paper self-completion questionnaire between 21st May and 25th June 2015. Data were weighted to reflect the exact composition of the House of Commons in terms of party representation and regional constituency distribution. ComRes is a member of the British Polling Council and abides by its rules.

*All press releases or other publications must be checked with ComRes before use. ComRes requires 48 hours to check a press release unless otherwise agreed.*

To commission a public opinion survey please contact Katharine Peacock: [katharine.peacock@comres.co.uk](mailto:katharine.peacock@comres.co.uk)

To register for Pollwatch, a monthly newsletter update on the polls, please email: [pollwatch@comres.co.uk](mailto:pollwatch@comres.co.uk)

## May 2015 MPs Parliamentary Panel Survey

**Q2\_SUM. UK airport expansion is a key issue in 2015. An independent commission is currently considering options for building a new runway in the UK, either at Gatwick or Heathrow airports, and will deliver its Final Report in the summer of 2015. To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? - SUMMARY TABLE**

Base: All respondents

	Total						NETS			
		Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree strongly	Don't know	Agree	Disagree	No response	Mean
Airports are important economic drivers for the regions where they are based	127 100%	68 53%	48 38%	3 3%	- -	4 3%	116 91%	3 3%	4 3%	3.5
Policy makers should support solutions that make best use of existing capacity at airports, as well as increasing the UK's runway capacity	127 100%	48 38%	62 49%	4 3%	1 1%	9 7%	110 86%	5 4%	4 3%	3.4
Supporting growth in aviation is necessary if the UK is to increase its exports	127 100%	56 44%	47 37%	8 6%	3 2%	11 9%	103 81%	11 9%	2 2%	3.4
The Government of the day should commit to acting on the Airports Commission final recommendations as soon as they are delivered	127 100%	48 38%	46 36%	8 6%	4 4%	16 13%	94 74%	13 10%	4 3%	3.3

## May 2015 MPs Parliamentary Panel Survey

**Q2\_1. UK airport expansion is a key issue in 2015. An independent commission is currently considering options for building a new runway in the UK, either at Gatwick or Heathrow airports, and will deliver its Final Report in the summer of 2015. To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? - The Government of the day should commit to acting on the Airports Commission final recommendations as soon as they are delivered**

Base: All respondents

	PARTY					COUNTRY			ENGLAND SUB-REGIONS				DATE OF BIRTH			MARGINALITY				LENGTH OF SERVICE						GENDER	
	Total	Con	Lab	SNP	Other	Eng-land	Wales	Scot-land & NI	Lon-don	South	Mids	North	Pre-1950	1950-1959	1960+	0.1-9.9%	10.0-19.9%	20.0-29.9%	30%+	Pre-1992	1992-1996	1997-2000	2001-2004	2005-2009	2010+	Male	Fe-male
Unweighted Total	127	51	57	10	9	96	14	17	21	18	21	36	13	38	76	33	31	33	30	13	16	15	21	39	23	100	27
Weighted Total	127	65	45	11	6	97	15	16	20	22	25	30	12	37	77	33	32	33	29	12	15	15	20	42	23	101	26
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Strongly agree	(4) 48	25	19	1	2	40	5	4	8	8	10	13	4	18	25	10	7	16	14	4	7	8	5	16	7	39	9
	38%	39%	43%	10%	33%	41%	31%	25%	40%	39%	40%	44%	36%	49%	33%	32%	23%	49%	49%	32%	49%	56%	25%	39%	30%	38%	35%
Tend to agree	(3) 46	28	13	1	3	38	4	3	10	8	9	11	4	9	32	15	13	9	8	3	6	4	10	18	6	38	8
	36%	43%	30%	10%	55%	40%	28%	20%	53%	39%	36%	35%	36%	23%	42%	47%	41%	27%	28%	22%	37%	24%	52%	42%	26%	37%	31%
Tend to disagree	(2) 8	3	3	2	1	3	3	2	-	-	1	1	1	3	4	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	4	4
	6%	4%	6%	20%	12%	3%	23%	14%	-	-	5%	4%	7%	8%	6%	9%	5%	7%	5%	7%	9%	5%	5%	3%	13%	4%	17%
Strongly disagree	(1) 4	1	-	3	-	1	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	3	1	-	2	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	2	4	-
	4%	2%	-	30%	-	1%	-	21%	-	6%	-	-	-	9%	1%	-	7%	3%	4%	-	-	15%	-	-	9%	4%	-
Don't know	16	4	9	3	-	10	3	3	2	1	5	3	2	4	11	4	5	3	4	4	1	-	2	4	5	12	4
	13%	6%	20%	30%	-	11%	18%	21%	8%	6%	18%	10%	14%	10%	14%	13%	16%	8%	14%	33%	5%	-	12%	10%	21%	12%	17%
<b>NETS</b>																											
Net: Agree	94	53	33	2	5	78	9	7	18	17	19	24	9	27	58	26	21	25	23	7	13	12	15	34	13	77	17
	74%	82%	73%	20%	88%	81%	58%	45%	92%	78%	76%	80%	72%	73%	75%	78%	64%	76%	77%	54%	86%	80%	77%	81%	56%	76%	67%
Net: Disagree	13	4	3	5	1	4	3	5	-	1	1	1	1	6	5	3	4	3	2	1	1	3	1	1	5	8	4
	10%	6%	6%	50%	12%	4%	23%	35%	-	6%	5%	4%	7%	17%	7%	9%	12%	10%	8%	7%	9%	20%	5%	3%	23%	8%	17%
No response	4	4	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	2	-	2	1	-	4	-	2	2	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	4	-
	3%	6%	2%	-	-	5%	-	-	-	11%	-	6%	6%	-	5%	-	8%	6%	-	6%	-	-	6%	6%	-	4%	-
Mean score	3.3	3.4	3.5	2.0	3.2	3.4	3.1	2.6	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.0	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.0	3.3	3.2

## May 2015 MPs Parliamentary Panel Survey

**Q2\_2. UK airport expansion is a key issue in 2015. An independent commission is currently considering options for building a new runway in the UK, either at Gatwick or Heathrow airports, and will deliver its Final Report in the summer of 2015. To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? - Supporting growth in aviation is necessary if the UK is to increase its exports**

Base: All respondents

	PARTY					COUNTRY			ENGLAND SUB-REGIONS				DATE OF BIRTH			MARGINALITY				LENGTH OF SERVICE						GENDER	
	Total	Con	Lab	SNP	Other	Eng-land	Wales	Scot-land & NI	Lon-don	South	Mids	North	Pre-1950	1950-1959	1960+	0.1-9.9%	10.0-19.9%	20.0-29.9%	30%+	Pre-1992	1992-1996	1997-2000	2001-2004	2005-2009	2010+	Male	Fe-male
Unweighted Total	127	51	57	10	9	96	14	17	21	18	21	36	13	38	76	33	31	33	30	13	16	15	21	39	23	100	27
Weighted Total	127	65	45	11	6	97	15	16	20	22	25	30	12	37	77	33	32	33	29	12	15	15	20	42	23	101	26
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Strongly agree (4)	56 44%	30 47%	21 47%	1 10%	3 44%	44 46%	7 46%	5 29%	11 56%	8 39%	11 44%	14 46%	8 61%	19 50%	29 38%	14 43%	10 30%	17 53%	14 49%	6 46%	10 65%	8 50%	9 44%	18 43%	6 26%	47 47%	8 31%
Tend to agree (3)	47 37%	23 35%	17 37%	5 50%	2 33%	36 37%	5 37%	6 39%	6 30%	7 33%	10 42%	12 40%	2 18%	11 31%	34 43%	12 36%	15 47%	12 35%	9 30%	3 22%	5 35%	4 30%	7 35%	17 40%	11 48%	32 32%	15 58%
Tend to disagree (2)	8 6%	4 6%	2 3%	2 20%	1 12%	5 5%	1 5%	2 14%	2 10%	1 6%	- -	2 6%	1 6%	3 8%	4 6%	2 7%	2 6%	3 9%	1 3%	1 6%	- -	3 20%	- -	3 8%	1 5%	6 6%	2 7%
Strongly disagree (1)	3 2%	- -	2 4%	1 10%	- -	1 1%	1 6%	1 7%	- -	- -	1 4%	- -	2 14%	1 3%	- -	1 3%	- -	- -	2 7%	2 14%	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 5%	3 3%	- -
Don't know	11 9%	5 8%	4 9%	1 10%	1 11%	8 8%	1 6%	2 11%	1 4%	2 11%	3 11%	2 8%	- -	3 8%	8 10%	4 11%	3 9%	1 3%	3 11%	1 11%	- -	- -	3 15%	3 6%	4 17%	10 10%	1 3%
<b>NETS</b>																											
Net: Agree	103 81%	53 83%	38 84%	7 60%	5 77%	80 83%	12 83%	11 68%	17 86%	16 72%	21 85%	26 86%	10 79%	30 81%	63 81%	26 79%	25 77%	29 88%	23 79%	8 68%	15 100%	12 80%	15 79%	35 83%	17 74%	80 79%	23 90%
Net: Disagree	11 9%	4 6%	3 7%	3 30%	1 12%	6 6%	2 11%	3 21%	2 10%	1 6%	1 4%	2 6%	3 21%	4 11%	4 6%	3 10%	2 6%	3 9%	3 9%	3 21%	- -	3 20%	- -	3 8%	2 9%	9 9%	2 7%
No response	2 2%	2 4%	- -	- -	- -	2 3%	- -	- -	- -	2 11%	- -	- -	- -	- -	2 3%	- -	2 8%	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1 6%	1 3%	- -	2 2%	- -
Mean score	3.4	3.5	3.4	2.7	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.0	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.4	3.1	3.6	3.3	3.6	3.4	3.1	3.4	3.2

## May 2015 MPs Parliamentary Panel Survey

**Q2\_3. UK airport expansion is a key issue in 2015. An independent commission is currently considering options for building a new runway in the UK, either at Gatwick or Heathrow airports, and will deliver its Final Report in the summer of 2015. To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? - Policy makers should support solutions that make best use of existing capacity at airports, as well as increasing the UK's runway capacity**

Base: All respondents

	PARTY					COUNTRY			ENGLAND SUB-REGIONS				DATE OF BIRTH			MARGINALITY				LENGTH OF SERVICE						GENDER	
	Total	Con	Lab	SNP	Other	Eng-land	Wales	Scot-land & NI	Lon-don	South	Mids	North	Pre-1950	1950-1959	1960+	0.1-9.9%	10.0-19.9%	20.0-29.9%	30%+	Pre-1992	1992-1996	1997-2000	2001-2004	2005-2009	2010+	Male	Fe-male
Unweighted Total	127	51	57	10	9	96	14	17	21	18	21	36	13	38	76	33	31	33	30	13	16	15	21	39	23	100	27
Weighted Total	127	65	45	11	6	97	15	16	20	22	25	30	12	37	77	33	32	33	29	12	15	15	20	42	23	101	26
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Strongly agree (4)	48	25	19	2	1	41	3	4	9	7	13	11	5	22	20	16	6	13	13	7	8	7	4	15	7	37	11
	38%	39%	42%	20%	22%	42%	21%	27%	48%	33%	51%	37%	44%	60%	26%	50%	17%	40%	44%	57%	54%	49%	19%	35%	30%	37%	43%
Tend to agree (3)	62	33	21	3	4	46	10	6	9	10	11	16	7	14	41	14	20	14	14	5	7	7	12	21	9	48	14
	49%	51%	47%	30%	67%	48%	66%	38%	48%	44%	46%	52%	56%	38%	53%	42%	61%	44%	48%	43%	46%	45%	63%	52%	39%	48%	53%
Tend to disagree (2)	4	-	3	1	-	2	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	4	1	2	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	4	-
	3%	-	6%	10%	-	2%	6%	7%	-	-	4%	3%	-	-	5%	3%	6%	2%	-	-	-	6%	5%	2%	5%	4%	-
Strongly disagree (1)	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
	1%	-	-	10%	-	-	-	7%	-	-	-	-	-	3%	-	-	-	-	4%	-	-	-	-	5%	-	1%	-
Don't know	9	2	2	3	1	5	1	3	1	2	-	1	-	-	9	2	3	3	1	-	-	-	1	2	5	8	1
	7%	4%	5%	30%	11%	5%	6%	21%	4%	11%	-	5%	-	-	11%	5%	8%	10%	4%	-	-	-	7%	6%	21%	8%	4%
<b>NETS</b>																											
Net: Agree	110	58	40	5	6	87	13	10	19	17	24	27	12	36	61	30	25	28	27	12	15	14	16	36	16	85	25
	86%	91%	89%	50%	89%	90%	88%	65%	96%	78%	96%	89%	100%	97%	79%	92%	78%	84%	92%	100%	100%	94%	82%	87%	70%	84%	96%
Net: Disagree	5	-	3	2	-	2	1	2	-	-	1	1	-	1	4	1	2	1	1	-	-	1	1	1	2	5	-
	4%	-	6%	20%	-	2%	6%	14%	-	-	4%	3%	-	3%	5%	3%	6%	2%	4%	-	-	6%	5%	2%	9%	5%	-
No response	4	4	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	4	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	4	-
	3%	6%	-	-	-	4%	-	-	-	11%	-	4%	-	-	5%	-	8%	4%	-	-	-	-	6%	6%	-	4%	-
Mean score	3.4	3.4	3.4	2.9	3.2	3.4	3.2	3.1	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.1	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.4	3.2	3.3	3.4

## May 2015 MPs Parliamentary Panel Survey

**Q2\_4. UK airport expansion is a key issue in 2015. An independent commission is currently considering options for building a new runway in the UK, either at Gatwick or Heathrow airports, and will deliver its Final Report in the summer of 2015. To what extent, if at all, do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? - Airports are important economic drivers for the regions where they are based**

Base: All respondents

	PARTY					COUNTRY			ENGLAND SUB-REGIONS				DATE OF BIRTH			MARGINALITY				LENGTH OF SERVICE						GENDER	
	Total	Con	Lab	SNP	Other	Eng-land	Wales	Scot-land & NI	Lon-don	South	Mids	North	Pre-1950	1950-1959	1960+	0.1-9.9%	10.0-19.9%	20.0-29.9%	30%+	Pre-1992	1992-1996	1997-2000	2001-2004	2005-2009	2010+	Male	Fe-male
Unweighted Total	127	51	57	10	9	96	14	17	21	18	21	36	13	38	76	33	31	33	30	13	16	15	21	39	23	100	27
Weighted Total	127	65	45	11	6	97	15	16	20	22	25	30	12	37	77	33	32	33	29	12	15	15	20	42	23	101	26
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Strongly agree (4)	68	33	26	4	4	53	7	8	13	8	15	16	9	22	37	22	11	19	15	6	10	9	9	24	10	54	14
	53%	51%	58%	40%	66%	55%	46%	50%	66%	39%	62%	54%	73%	59%	48%	68%	34%	59%	52%	53%	63%	60%	45%	58%	42%	53%	53%
Tend to agree (3)	48	25	15	5	2	35	6	7	6	8	9	11	2	13	33	10	17	9	12	4	6	5	9	14	11	36	12
	38%	39%	33%	50%	34%	36%	42%	43%	30%	39%	38%	37%	13%	35%	43%	30%	54%	28%	40%	34%	37%	32%	45%	33%	46%	36%	47%
Tend to disagree (2)	3	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	3	-
	3%	2%	2%	10%	-	1%	6%	7%	-	6%	-	-	7%	6%	-	3%	-	4%	4%	7%	-	8%	-	-	5%	3%	-
Strongly disagree (1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Don't know	4	1	2	-	-	3	1	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	4	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	2	4	-
	3%	2%	5%	-	-	3%	6%	-	4%	6%	-	3%	-	-	5%	-	5%	3%	4%	-	-	-	4%	3%	7%	4%	-
<b>NETS</b>																											
Net: Agree	116	58	41	10	6	88	13	15	19	17	25	27	11	35	70	32	28	29	27	11	15	14	18	38	21	90	26
	91%	91%	91%	90%	100%	91%	88%	93%	96%	78%	100%	91%	87%	94%	91%	97%	88%	88%	92%	87%	100%	92%	90%	91%	88%	89%	100%
Net: Disagree	3	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	3	-
	3%	2%	2%	10%	-	1%	6%	7%	-	6%	-	-	7%	6%	-	3%	-	4%	4%	7%	-	8%	-	-	5%	3%	-
No response	4	4	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	2	-	2	1	-	4	-	2	2	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	4	-
	3%	6%	2%	-	-	5%	-	-	-	11%	-	6%	6%	-	5%	-	8%	6%	-	6%	-	-	6%	6%	-	4%	-
Mean score	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.3	3.7	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.7	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.5	3.5