



HEATHROW DEPARTING AIRCRAFT
*HOW NOISE WAS DELIBERATELY INTRODUCED INTO PREVIOUSLY QUIET AREAS
IN BREACH OF REGULATIONS*

The 3 villages (Lightwater, Windlesham and Bagshot) are located 4- 5 miles to the **West** of Heathrow's Midhurst flightpath (Westerly operations*)

All destinations of aircraft using this flightpath are to the **East** e.g. Barcelona, Paris, Rome, Algiers, Cape Town, Johannesburg etc.

Why is this important?

Because flight regulations state that planes can only be vectored off a flightpath at altitudes of 4000ft or more **towards** their destination.

In that way, the spread of noise from Heathrow's twelve departure routes used to be controlled in accordance with Government Regulation policies.

In 2011 National Air Traffic Services introduced satellite navigation to replace the old analogue beacon based systems. The new digital system gave NATS opportunities.

In 2014 without any consultation or warning, NATS started vectoring large numbers of planes off the flightpath **away** from their destinations by vectoring to the **West** over Ascot and the 3 villages. After a huge number of complaints, NATS advised it would stop the 'trial' early. But many flights continue to be vectored over the 3 villages today.

By continuing to vector flights **away** from their destinations Heathrow has deliberately introduced very significant noise into previously quiet desirable residential areas and breached regulations.

What does Heathrow say about this?

A recent letter dated 1st May 2019 from Heathrow's Director of Communications Nigel Milton to Michael Gove MP stated

"On Westerly operations all three areas (Lightwater, Camberley, Windlesham) are overflown by departing aircraft which have left the Noise Preferential Routes after they have reached 4000ft - at which point NATS air traffic controllers direct them **towards** their destination".

This sentence is the exact opposite of the truth. It should read '...all three areas are overflown because NATS has continued to vector aircraft **away** from their destinations in breach of regulations'.

*Heathrow has two flight operations as aircraft have to take-off into the wind.
Westerly operations - when wind direction is from the W, NW, SW about 70% of the time
Easterly operations - when wind direction is from the E, NE, SE about 30% of the time