

## **Response to the consultation on Heathrow's financial resilience on behalf of Richmond and Twickenham Friends of the Earth**

We believe that it should not be the role of the CAA to facilitate the raising of capital (and specifically the financing of Heathrow expansion) by Heathrow. Heathrow is a private company, owned mostly by overseas investors. The CAA should focus instead on protecting the environment; those impacted by the airport (for example those under the flight paths); and those who use the airport. If Heathrow wishes to expand it should do so without assistance from the taxpayer or from its regulator.

The regulator, should however, put in place contingency plans, so that if Heathrow overstretchers itself financially, another company can be brought in to take over ownership of the airport. It should also seek to ensure that Heathrow's shareholders are not able to draw dividends if the financial position of the company becomes a concern.