

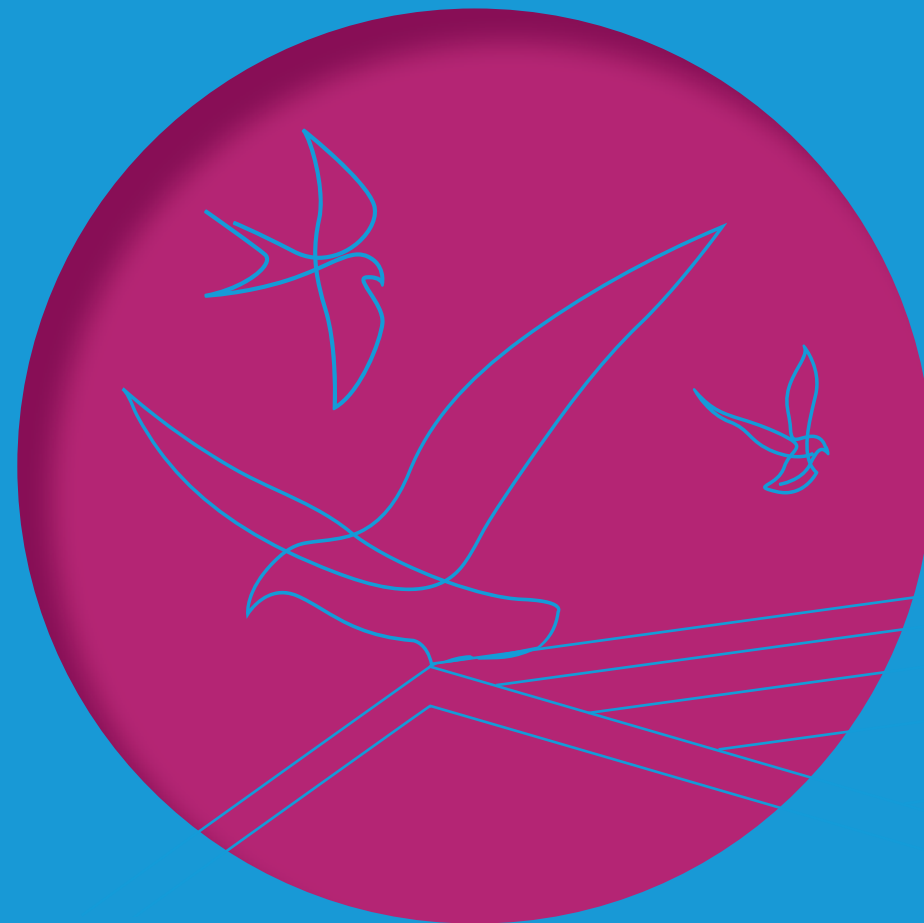


YOUR LONDON AIRPORT  
*Gatwick*

If you have any queries or need any further information,  
please contact

[gal.safeguarding@gatwickairport.com](mailto:gal.safeguarding@gatwickairport.com)

we would be happy to advise.



# Bird Hazards

Have you spotted Gulls on your roof?

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Aircraft are highly vulnerable to wildlife strike risk and species such as deer, badger and foxes can cause safety concerns, however birds are the most problematic species in the UK. It is estimated that damage to aircraft and flight delays resulting from wildlife strikes around the world **cost hundreds of millions of pounds** per year.

Bird strikes are one of the airport's top risks and Gatwick Airport is required under CAA regulations and ICAO guidance to.....

### 'Reduce the attractiveness of the area to birds/wildlife on and in the vicinity of the airport'.

Gatwick Airport has a robust wildlife hazard management regime, including **24 hour patrols** by dedicated personnel on the airfield, regular off airport monitoring out to 13km and **strict habitat management**.

GAL are a consultee under the Town & Country Planning process and will be consulted on certain planning applications within a 15km zone of the airport.

The proposals are assessed to ensure that they will not impact on the safe operation of the airport. Various checks are carried out but for the purpose of this document we are concentrating on the potential **impact of large areas of flat/shallow pitched roofs**.

## Did you know?

THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A SEAGULL!

There are many gull species that could be considered a risk to aircraft operations, including...

### Great Black Backed Gulls



A very large, thick-set black-backed gull, with a powerful beak. Adults are blacker than the smaller lesser black-backed gull. It has a heavy flight and can look quite hunched when perched. It will fight off other gulls and chase them to snatch food.

### Herring Gulls



Herring gulls are large, noisy gulls found throughout the year around our coasts and inland around rubbish tips, fields, large reservoirs and lakes, especially during winter.

Adults have light grey backs, white under parts, and black wing tips with white 'mirrors'. Their legs are pink, with webbed feet and they have heavy, slightly hooked bills marked with a red spot. Young birds are mottled brown.

Buildings with large areas of flat, shallow pitched and/or green roofs can be attractive to Gulls. There are now **significant numbers of Gulls** moving inland and nesting and roosting on these types of roofs. The potential is there for Gulls to transit the airport and approach/take off paths when travelling between roosting and feeding/bathing sites.

We may request that a **Bird Hazard Management Plan** be entered into through the Town & Country Planning process to ensure that Gulls do not become established on roof.

## If your building has a large area of flat and/or shallow pitched roof, what does this mean for you?

- Check your roof regularly.
- If you do notice bird activity especially between March to June (typical breeding season for Gulls) you need to review any bird proofing measures you have installed.
- If there are no issues with bird proofing measures or none are installed and Gulls are gathering, we would recommend you contact a pest control company for advice on the best way to manage.
- Ensure that the site is kept free of rubbish especially food waste, Gulls like to scavenge.
- Gull free roofs are of benefit to yourselves and the wider community as bird waste can block guttering and can become a health hazard.

Aerodrome safeguarding is a legal requirement under UK CAA (Civil Aviation Authority) regulations and ICAO (International Civil Aviation Authority) guidance.

### Contact Us:

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