Green light for new \$305m London City upgrade

Newham Council has approved a £200m (\$305m) plan by London City Airport to operate 111,000 flights a year to ease pressure on existing airport infrastructure.



That corresponds to 41,000 additional flights a year – in addition to the existing 70,000 that are already permitted – at London's most central airport facility.

The expansion is said to be a stop-gap measure to help raise capacity prior to a new runway being both allocated and built at either Heathrow or Gatwick.



London City Airport is actually the only airport that is officially located in the City of London, as opposed to Heathrow and Gatwick.

According to London City Airport, this new expansion programme will generate additional short-haul aviation capacity for the UK; create 1,500 new jobs and a further 500 during construction; double economic impact to £1.5bn (\$2.2bn) per annum; facilitate greater levels of inward investment in East London; and deliver a world-class international gateway to London.

The plans include developing existing infrastructure to increase runway capacity, to allow more take-offs and landings at peak times and accommodate the next generation of quieter, more fuel efficient aircraft.



LSTR/Aelia has taken retailing at London City Airport to a much higher standard than its predecessors.

These aircraft have longer ranges and will open up new markets not currently served from London City Airport.

Declan Collier, CEO of London City Airport said: "The development of the airport will culminate in 2023 when, having constructed seven new aircraft stands, a parallel taxiway and terminal extensions to the west and to the east, the airport will be welcoming some six million passengers every year."

The airport reported its busiest ever year in 2014, handling 3.65m passengers – an increase of 8% over 2013.