

9th February 2007.

**New Man at the helm.**

London Southend Airport has appointed a new Managing Director.

Alastair Welch, 39, joined Southend this month, from BAA Stansted where he played a key role in the development of the airport.

He has wide ranging experience across engineering, terminal management and development roles within BAA at Heathrow and Stansted over the past 11 years.

Trained initially as an engineer and later in accountancy, Alastair was actively involved in small and medium sized businesses before entering aviation.

Southend Airport is recognised as an important driver for inward investment and regeneration in the Thames Gateway and is well placed to serve the London Olympics in 2012. It also has the potential to be an important Essex transport interchange with six services an hour into Liverpool Street via an airport railway station.

Alastair said: "It's a great time to be joining Southend, as we enter a critical stage in our development".

ENDS

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