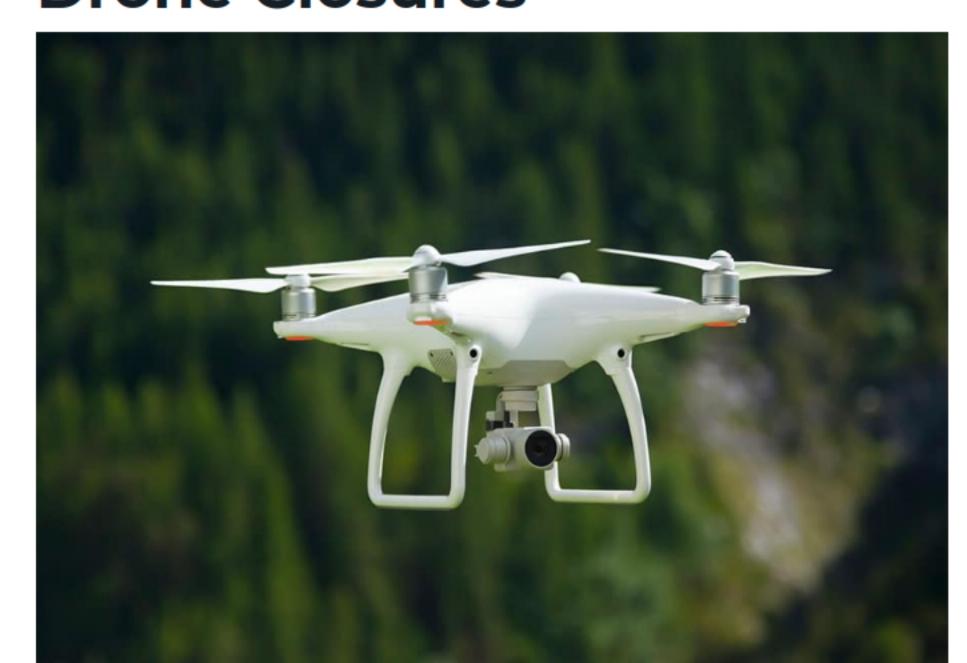
Ryanair Demands Minister's Resignation Over Airport Drone Closures



the job," he continued.

NEWS / 3RD MARCH 2023 / GEORGE MORAHAN

Ryanair has called for Minister for Transport Eamon Ryan to resign unless he can put an end to persistent closures at Dublin Airport due to interference from drones.

The airport suspended all flights for half an hour on Thursday evening for the sixth time in the past six weeks due to drone activity. Flights were prevented for departing or landing at Dublin between 6:27pm and 6:59pm following a drone sighting.

Minister Ryan had "failed to take any effective action to protect Dublin Airport and his strategy of holding 'meetings' is useless.

"As always Minister Ryan promises 'stronger measures' but delivers nothing."

Ryanair CEO Michael O'Leary said the situation was unacceptable and that

O'Leary said that major European airports such as London Heathrow, Paris

in place to prevent closures

"Minister Ryan should explain why other European airports have effective drone measures in place but Dublin Airport keeps being closed, while he is asleep on

Charles De Gaulle, and Amsterdam Schipol all have effective anti-drone measures

"Sadly, our Transport Minister is all talk and no action when it comes to drone closures. As Transport Minister he should now fix this issue or resign and let somebody more effective do the job."



A spokesperson for **Aer Lingus** said the "severe disruption" to airport operations by drone activity is unacceptable, describing the repeated incidents as "very

"The Plan for Aviation Safety which contains actions to address the risks of drone infringements, and which has already been published, must now be progressed as a matter of urgency," they continued.

"The severe disruption imposed on passengers, airlines and other stakeholders is unacceptable and measures to address the drone issue must be now expedited in order to prevent any further recurrence of this type of disruption."

DAA, which operates Dublin Airport, said gardai had been informed of the incident of a drone flying within 5km of the airport, describing it as "reckless and

"Drones causing disruptions at airports and events is a state wide issue that needs to be tackled with new legislation, a state agency responsible for managing

Gardai last week charged a man in his 40s as part of an investigation of drone activity at Dublin Airport last July.

counter drone technology and harsher sentences," DAA said in a tweet.

(Pic: Getty Images)

concerning".