

GATWICK AIRPORT NOISE MANAGEMENT BOARD

COMMUNITY FORUM (NCF-5)

Wednesday 15 September 2021 – Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

Key Points and Actions

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Noise Management Board (NMB) Community Forum (NCF) Chair welcomed participants to the meeting and welcomed the following new members to the NCF: Cllr Katie Nagel from West Sussex County Council; Cllr Margot McArthur from Kent County Council; and Cllr Alan McDermott from Tunbridge Wells Borough Council. The Forum is also expecting a new member from Crawley Borough Council however the appointed representative is yet to be confirmed. The NCF Chair reminded members that, for the NCF, any community noise group or council can send a substitute representative should any member be unable to attend.

The NCF Chair advised that papers from the NCF, the NMB Executive Board (NEX) and the NMB Delivery Group (NDG) are available on Box; members should contact the Secretary if they have any issues with access. In any future NCF consultation exercise where written submissions are invited from members and member organisations, those submissions will be published on Box as a matter of course unless requested otherwise. The NCF Chair also advised that the NMB will continue to meet virtually under current circumstances but will keep this under review.

The NCF Chair thanked those who participated in the recent round of virtual surgeries with he and the NEX Chair, noting that overall they were very positive and helpful discussions.

The NCF Chair also noted the ministerial announcement that the Independent Commission on Civil Aviation Noise (ICCAN) is to be wound up at the end of September 2021, with its functions transferred to the Civil Aviation Authority and the Department for Transport. The NCF Chair thanked ICCAN for their attendance at NMB meetings and for supporting the NMB's work over the past two years.

2. Aircraft Noise Impacts from the Northern Runway Project

The NCF Chair welcomed Steve Mitchell of Mitchell Environmental to discuss aircraft noise impacts from Gatwick's Northern Runway Project. The aim of the discussion was to explore the potential noise impacts of bringing the Northern Runway into routine use and to ask questions about the noise-related aspects of the project. Members were reminded that the formal consultation process is now open. It will not be for the NMB itself to make a submission, but members are encouraged to engage in the consultation.

Jonathan Deegan, DCO Project Lead at Gatwick Airport, provided an overview of the Northern Runway Project, which aims to bring Gatwick's existing Northern Runway into routine use. The project includes moving the centre line of the Northern Runway further north by 12 metres. Gatwick proposes utilising both runways for departing flights and the main runway for arrivals using existing flight paths. The public consultation runs until 23:59 on 1 December. There are several ways to engage with the consultation, including 'Call the expert' sessions and visiting the mobile project office. Further information on the project and how to have your say is available at: <https://www.gatwickairport.com/business-community/future-plans/northern-runway>.

Steve Mitchell provided an overview of the information on the air noise impacts from the Northern Runway Project included in the [Preliminary Environmental Information Report \(PEIR\) Chapter 14: Noise and Vibration](#). This contains details of the noise assessment, which follows CAP1616 guidance and includes the secondary 'N Above' and overflight metrics.

Key points to note include:

- As the Northern Runway will operate with minimal change to existing flight paths, no airspace change consultation is required. Departures from either runway are currently able to fly any departure route to the west or east. This is the existing situation and is not planned to change with any future dual-runway operation.
- Noise modelling accounts for frequency and has assumed that the Northern Runway would routinely operate only in the period 06:00 hour to 23:00 hours, avoiding scheduling flights in the majority of the more sensitive night-time period.
- The forecasts include all flights (including cargo). There are two future fleet cases – a Central Case and a Slower Transition Case (to represent uncertainty in airline fleet replacement plans). This is because the greatest reduction in air noise is driven by the introduction of new generation aircraft with quieter engines.
- Proposed mitigation measures include operating flights using procedures designed to minimise noise impacts, a two tier noise insulation scheme covering defined areas, and an air noise envelope to provide certainty to the community that noise levels will be limited and will reduce in the future so as to share the benefits of new technologies with the community.
- Following the consultation, responses will be reviewed and further work, including the development of a final noise envelope proposal which takes account of stakeholder views, will be conducted.
- CAGNE asked whether funding would be available from GAL for an independent noise advisor to support their consultation response. The NCF Chair agreed to find out.

***Post meeting note:** GAL has confirmed that a collective NMB consultation response is not appropriate, however member organisations are encouraged to respond, and that whilst GAL propose to assist the Local Planning Authorities with their consultation responses they will not be providing funding to local community noise groups to support their consultation submissions.*

3. Overview of Airspace and Noise Performance Dashboard

Kimberley Heather, GAL, provided an overview of the Airspace and Noise Performance Dashboard. This is distinct from the Airline Noise Performance Table, and accessible to the public at: <https://aircraftnoise.gatwickairport.com/>.

The Airspace and Noise Performance Dashboard is an interactive online tool that allows the user to explore data in relation to aircraft noise. Information is provided to aid understanding of aircraft noise, including arrivals and holding stacks, departures, wind and runway direction, and go-arounds. The tool also includes various dashboards including those focused on airspace noise performance, noise monitors and complaints.

New features include a dashboard highlighting the impacts of Covid-19, a function that allows users to tailor the data for their specific area, and information on how overflight is calculated. A FAQs page provides further information on queries commonly received by the Airspace Office and includes a link to the [Aviation Noise Information Booklet](#), designed to provide information to residents on how

Gatwick operates. Following a query on this information, the NCF Chair agreed for land use planning to be discussed at a future meeting.

A demonstration of the information available on the flight tracking tool [WebTrak](#) was also provided. The system allows users to track flights and view further detail on specific aircraft such as altitude, point of closest approach, flight track profiles and violation details, as well as rainfall and noise monitor readings. WebTrak has a 25-minute delay to allow the accurate verification of flight data.

4. A.O.B

- Meeting administration and the sending of meeting invites. To date, meeting details have been circulated by the NMB Secretariat via email. Following feedback received, the NMB Secretariat will look to send diary meeting invitations for meetings in 2022. Diary meeting invitations show email addresses; therefore, members will be provided with the option to provide another contact email address should they wish to. The NMB Secretariat will be sending an email regarding this to all NMB members.
- Night flights. PAGNE noted that the reduction or elimination of night flights is a top priority for communities and that they would like to see this on the NMB Workplan. GACC supported this. The NCF Chair advised that this could go to the NEX as a proposal. CAGNE noted concerns regarding the geographical makeup of the NEX but agreed to review any proposal developed by the NEX CNG representatives. The NCF Chair advised the Forum that the virtual NEX in November will trial having observers (any NMB member can send one representative to join as an observer) and that he represents the Community Forum on the NEX along with the two CNG and Local Authority representatives.
- Examine Fair and Equitable Distribution (FED) workplan item. GACC noted their disappointment regarding the composition of the FED technical Steering Group (tSG), noting that communities had been excluded from direct participation, and suggesting that it should not be for the tSG to confirm the appointment of the delivery partner. PAGNE noted that they shared concerns with GAL regarding the recommended delivery partner but have yet to receive a response. RU reminded the Community Forum that he represents the NCF on the tSG and that no appointment had yet been made due to the concerns raised. These will be discussed in the tSG taking place the following day (16 September). Community Forum members were reminded that the decision of who to appoint as the delivery partner is GAL's, however views of the tSG and the forums it represents were sought. The tSG meeting is open to observers, and RU has been in touch with those looking to observe to explain how he can be contacted in real time during the meeting.

Actions

Action	Description	Responsibility	Status	Comments
NCF/05/01	NCF Chair to investigate whether GAL will provide funding to community noise groups for an independent noise advisor to support their Northern Runway Project Consultation response.	NCF Chair	Closed	GAL has confirmed that a collective NMB consultation response is not appropriate, however member organisations are encouraged to respond, and that whilst GAL

propose to assist the Local Planning Authorities with their consultation responses they will not be providing funding to local community noise groups to support their consultation submissions.

NCF/05/02 Land use planning to be discussed at a future NCF Chair meeting.

Attendees

Name	Organisation
Liz Lockwood	Tandridge District Council
Caroline Salmon	Mole Valley District Council
	CAGNE
Chris Leyland	CAGNE Forum
Charles Lloyd	GACC
Atholl Forbes	PAGNE
Angus Stewart	TWAANG
Andy Sinclair	GAL
Jonathan Deegan	GAL
Kimberley Heather	GAL
Steve Mitchell	Mitchell Environmental
Murray Taylor	Nicol Taylor Consulting Ltd
Warren Morgan	NCF Chair
Ruud Ummels	NCF Vice Chair
Laura Boccadamo	NCF Secretary

Apologies

Name	Organisation
Matt Boughton	Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council
Margot McArthur	Kent County Council
Ian Hare	APCAG

Future NMB Meetings

Meeting	Date
NEX Meeting 4	3 November 2021
NDG Meeting 7	17 November 2021
Gatwick Airspace and NMB Public Meeting	2 December 2021