

# Gatwick Noise Management Board (NMB) – Terms of Reference

## Purpose

The purpose of the NMB is to develop, agree, oversee and maintain a coordinated noise management vision and consequent strategies for Gatwick, for all stakeholder organisations, intended to improve the situation for those affected by noise from aircraft using Gatwick.

This should include joint and coordinated reports through the NMB on progress of the implementation of these agreed strategies and, should seek to ensure consistent communication across all stakeholder groups, using verifiable data and transparent policies, to support the facilitation of their understanding by residents. This may also include when necessary, research and independent verification of information to be published.

The NMB can assist in ensuring that community concerns about aircraft noise are fully understood by key stakeholder organisations considering issues that may affect noise management around Gatwick. The NMB will focus initially on the implementation of recommendations from the Arrivals Review, but then extending to other important noise management issues.

The NMB should assist in the progressive development of consensus across its membership, to improve the alignment of responsibilities, initiatives and priorities of the key organisations able to influence change in the effect of noise from aircraft using Gatwick, whether for arrivals, departures or related to aircraft ground noise.

## Objectives

1. The objective of the NMB is to develop, agree and oversee a coordinated noise management vision and consequent strategies for Gatwick, for all stakeholder organisations
2. The initial focus will be on the implementation of the Arrivals Review Recommendations
3. The NMB's remit extends to all important noise management issues related to Gatwick, including those related to departures, and aircraft ground noise, as well as arrivals
4. The NMB's scope includes all commercial matters that might reasonably be expected to have a significant impact on the noise environment at Gatwick
5. The NMB should be a body with real influence over operational stakeholders around the airport such as on airspace and aircraft operational issues
6. The NMB should influence and monitor the effective use of noise awareness training policies for staff of all Gatwick stakeholders and reported through NATMAG
7. The NMB should be consulted on all Gatwick noise related matters, such as compensation policy, noise insulation and community support
8. The NMB should be a main channel<sup>1</sup> through which GAL, NATS, ANS, Airlines, DfT and CAA communicate actions that are being taken to address the effects of noise from aircraft using Gatwick

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<sup>1</sup> Notwithstanding the obligations of the Gatwick Areas Joint Authorities Group, hosted by Crawley Borough Council

9. The NMB should seek to ensure the joint and co-ordinated reporting by stakeholders through the NMB, initially on progress of the Arrivals Review implementation and then on other noise issues and initiatives, and seek to facilitate better understanding by residents through more consistent communication and verifiable data
10. The NMB should establish a mechanism to identify and address unintended and unexpected consequences of noise improvement initiatives
11. Particular care will need to be taken by the NMB to avoid conflicting with the remits or duties of any of the other bodies already involved in noise matters related to Gatwick
12. If and when the Government establishes an Independent Noise Authority the NMB should ensure appropriate alignment between its own Terms of Reference and the remit of such a body
13. The NMB should agree and establish a process to set its SMART objectives and to regularly review and report its progress
14. The NMB should establish and maintain a transparent mechanism to adapt these Terms of Reference when agreed by members of the NMB
15. The NMB will seek to positively influence the noise environment of stakeholders by assisting the development of consensus among the various organisations represented through its membership
16. In the event that it is not possible to reach NMB consensus on any matter, after exhausting all reasonable efforts, a majority decision can be made provided that it represents at least 75% of the NMB Membership

## Meetings and Reporting

17. The NMB should meet every 2 months, or at intervals agreed by the members
18. The agenda and minutes of NMB meetings should be published on the (NMB website)
19. NMB meetings will not be open to the public, unless agreed by the NMB members for specific dates or specific topics
20. It is expected that at least one public meeting will be conducted each year by the NMB, to facilitate community dialogue, a reasonable understanding in communities of the work areas of the NMB, and to report NMB progress and plans

## Membership

21. The NMB will comprise a nominated individual to represent the following organisations:

### Institutions

- a. GAL
- b. Aircraft Operator with a minimum of 10% of the movements at Gatwick
- c. ANS – Tower ATC provider
- d. NATS – Air Navigation Service Provider
- e. CAA
- f. DfT
- g. GATCOM

### Community Members

- h. County Council Representative #1
- i. County Council Representative #2

- j. Community Representative Pair #1 TWAANG, ESCCAN
  - k. Community Representative Pair #2 GON, PAGNE
  - l. Community Representative Pair #3 CAGNE, PLANE WRONG
  - m. Community Representative Pair #4 HWCAAG, APCAG
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- 22. Each member shall have a single named alternate, who can attend the NMB as an observer, or can participate when the member is not available
  - 23. The number of NMB members should ideally not exceed 14; above that the NMB's effectiveness will increasingly be at risk
  - 24. It is important that all representatives are of sufficient seniority, and where appropriate, is empowered, to reach decisions
  - 25. Care should be taken to ensure that a balanced geographical representation is always achieved for Community members of the NMB.
  - 26. The term of NMB membership is 3 years, renewable. Individuals shall not serve more than 2 terms
  - 27. Care should be taken to ensure continuity of NMB competence during any periods of membership transition
  - 28. Institutional member organisations shall be invited to nominate their representative Alternates will attend NMB when the respective member is not available
  - 29. The County Councils of Kent, Surrey, West Sussex and East Sussex should have either a member or Alternate participation on the NMB. Alternates must not be drawn from the same Council
  - 30. Eight Community Noise Groups are represented at the NMB as four pairs; each Member pair will exercise a single NMB vote. The Member pairs will normally switch their NMB voting member and alternate seat for each meeting unless by agreement within the pair and notified on each occasion to the NMB.
  - 31. NMB meetings will be open to non-members only by specific invitation of the Chairman
  - 32. GAL shall appoint the Independent Chairman and Secretary of the NMB by agreement of the NMB members
  - 33. NMB membership terminates automatically for any member that fails to attend more than three consecutive full meetings of the NMB