



**Aviation Management Board Meeting**

**RWE, 130 Wood Street, EC2V 6DL**

**Date:** Thursday 24 April 2014

**Present**

KL	Kelly Lightowler	CAA
CG	Chris Gormley	DECC – Chair
JH	Jon Hayward	DECC
SH	Simon Heyes	Infinis (AIFCL Chair)
DBo	David Boyd	MOD
MB	Mark Balsdon	NATS
DGC	Dujon Goncalves-Collins	RUK
DJ	David Jones	RWE
WC	Wayne Cranstone	RWE (AIFCL deputy)
SC	Simon Coote	Scottish Government
MC	Matt Clear	The Crown Estate

**Apologies**

David Best	DfT
Matt Partridge	RUK

**Introduction, Minutes & Actions**

1. CG opened the meeting, noted apologies and agreed the agenda. No AOBs were raised. CG also noted that this was WC's last AMB meeting and he thanked him for his outstanding contribution to the Board. DJ would be succeeding him as AIFCL Deputy Chair.
2. The draft minutes from the 23 January AMB were approved without amendment. CG ran through the outstanding actions and it was agreed that only Action 44 remained open and KL agreed to review as she thought it was completed. Action 50 was discussed as a substantive agenda item.

**Aviation Plan Progress Report**

3. JH gave an overview of the dashboard report. The main highlights were the completion of the NATs Project RM and the MOD pre-planning workstreams. The AMB noted that the Eskdalemuir Working Group was expected to formally agree the research project's findings on 28 April and discussed the measures necessary to complete the Eskdalemuir Workstream. The Military ATC

workstream had been revised to reflect the confirmation of MOD's 'next steps' requirements. The Board discussed the format of a draft straw man mitigation slide for the dashboard and DJ and DGC agreed to send suggestions to JH.

### **Action 51: JH to progress work on dashboard template**

#### **Offshore Aviation Operations Group Update**

1. MC gave an update on the progress of the group's work. Excellent progress had been made during the last quarter which has resulted in a change of direction for the workstream. The Group has been working with Oil and Gas UK and RUK to conduct a gap analysis and then to develop a transitional offshore guidance document looking at key issues (e.g. survival kit, training, winching etc.). The output of the gap analysis is due to be discussed at the Aviation Technical Safety Group (ATSG) on 3 June and may be further developed by time of the July AMB meeting. MC requested that the workstream remain within the AMB until the ATSG agree to take it forward themselves. KL agreed that development of the guidance should become a regular agenda item for the Airspace and Safety Initiative Windfarm Working Group (ASIIWWG).

#### **Fund Management Board (FMB) Update**

2. SH gave the Board a brief update on the FMB's earlier discussions. FMB members were keen to know more about progress with the turbulence study. KL explained that the contractors had spent an extra week on site and that data had been collected and was being analysed. It is likely that the relevant CAP document would need to be updated to define what turbine effects look like but further work would be required to determine the effects of that turbulence on aircraft. SH noted no AIFCL members currently have objections from the Met Office.

#### **MOD Update**

3. The Board discussed the current position in regard to the ATC next steps workstream noting that the stakeholder group would meet on 29 April. AIFCL and some offshore developers have formed a small group to take commercial arrangements forward. On pre-planning, DBo advised that the backlog in pre-applications in the system was almost cleared, new pre-applications were being processed and RUK had advised its members' of the re-commencement of the service via an update note. On air defence, report writing for the Trimmingham flight trials is under way. DJ suggested that developers have differing requirements for buying-in to the solution depending on whether they are working on project or balance-sheet funded developments. MOD had met with DECC and the Crown Estate to discuss mitigation issues and it was agreed that a further meeting was required.

### **Action 52: DECC, TCE and MOD to meet to discuss air defence mitigation issues**

## **NATS Update**

4. NATS has held two developer days to publicise the Project RM arrangements. Discussions have been held with two developers beyond the original funders to consider the possibility of delivering the solution at Claxby. Discussions with Raytheon Canada are also underway. NATS' supply chain assessment is continuing and is being driven by non-en route airports. NATS are meeting with technology providers on a quarterly basis and providing briefing to customer airports.
5. KL updated the AMB on progress with aircraft communications research. An issue has arisen with data processing and establishing an accurate baseline. The work will continue but its completion date is currently unknown. KL will seek a further update from the Project Board and forward to AMB members. The AMB agreed it would be helpful if NATS could provide details of the projects or MWs affected by aircraft communications objections.

**Action 53: NATS to circulate the Project RM Information Pack to AMB members.**

**Action 54: KL to circulate an update on the aircraft communications research.**

**Action 55: NATS to provide details of the projects or MWs affected by aircraft communications objections**

## **Southern Scotland Aviation Group**

6. SC updated the AMB on the Southern Scotland Aviation Group's meeting on 2 April. The Group would focus on specific issues and only intervene where it could bring additional benefit. The Group agreed that it would be a workstream of the Aviation Plan and meet on a quarterly basis. The Group is considering commissioning a study of near market solutions from an independent body.

## **AMB Future**

7. CG introduced an item to consider Paper 2014/1 on the future role of the AMB. The paper was drafted by DECC and collated the views of members (with the exception of NATS) on the key issues facing the AMB in the near to medium term. There was a consensus that the Aviation Plan requires revision to reflect recent successes and to focus AMB activity towards increasing deployment. The recommendations were broadly accepted and the AMB took a collective action to report back to DECC before the next AMB if there was a change in view. However, it was agreed that further representations should be made by the CAA to the AOA to encourage it to retain its seat on the Board. It was also agreed that the AMB should meet on a triannual basis with effect from July 2014.

**Action 56: AMB to report to DECC on the recommendations in Paper 2014/1.**

**Action 57: KL to engage with AOA on future AMB membership.**

**Any Other Business**

8. None.

**Next Meeting/Dates of Future Meeting**

9. The next meeting will be held on 24 July 2014 at The Crown Estate, 16 New Burlington Place, London, W1S 2HX. The AMB will then meet in November 2014, the date and location yet to be confirmed.

**END**

## Annex A – Open Actions

	Owner	Action	Expected Date	Status	Comment
3.	RenewableUK	To refresh the Evidence regularly for updates to the Aviation Plan	Annual updates	Open	
44	CAA	KL to draft text for inclusion in the guidance.	23 Jan 2014	Open	
51	DECC	JH to progress work on dashboard template.	24 July 2014	Open	
52	DECC/TCE/MOD	DECC, TCE and MOD to meet to discuss air defence mitigation issues.	24 July 2014	Open	
53	NATS	NATS to circulate the Project RM Information Pack to AMB members.	24 July 2014	Open	
54	CAA	KL to circulate an update on the aircraft communications research.	24 July 2014	Open	
55	NATS	NATS to provide details of the projects or MWs affected by aircraft communications objections.	24 July 2014	Open	
56	AMB	AMB to report to DECC on the recommendations in Paper 2014/1.	24 July 2014	Open	
57	CAA	KL to engage with AOA on future AMB membership.	24 July 2014	Open	