

## **Aviation Advisory Panel – 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

**Date:** 11<sup>th</sup> October 2011

### **Present**

JA	Jon Arden	RenewableUK (chair)
CM	Chenab Mangat	DECC
AT	Alexis Tregenza	DECC
DF	Dean Furlonger	DECC
DBe	David Best	DfT
MC	Matt Clear	TCE
NH	Neal Henley	CAA (DAP)
SW	Stephen Wheeler	CAA (SRG)
IM	Ian Miles	CAA (SRG)
DBo	David Boyd	MOD (DIO)
AN	Alison Naftaflin	MOD (DIO)
VH	Vicky Hillier	MOD – Air Command
JW	Jim Wylie	AOA – (Infratil Airports)
JC	Jon Cox	AOA – (Manchester Airport)
BK	Brendan Kelly	NATS
CC	Chris Cox	NATS
RL	Randall Linfoot	E.ON
TF	Tim French	RES
AP	Alastair Price	Met Office

### **Apologies**

Hannah Brown	DECC
Mike Coleman	MOD – SO1 Battlespace Management Safeguarding
Simon Coote	Scottish Government
Gareth Craft	TCE

## **1,2 & 3 Introduction by Chair, Apologies and Actions from Previous Meeting**

JA welcomed those present, AT listed the apologies and went through the actions from the previous meeting.

### **4. Report on business case from CAA on REPO Post**

NH outlined how the REPO post had been funded to date and reminded the group that the role would come to an end at the end of the year if funding isn't found. The CAA would ideally be looking for funding for the next 3 years. JA pointed out to the group that there is a general feeling within the FMB that funding for this type of programme isn't what the FMB came together to do. At most, there could be a case for part-funding, although JA asked the question of whether the role of the REPO post in relation to industry could be refined. SW asked whether DECC could provide any funding to which CM replied that DECC couldn't. NH pointed out that he would rather the business case went to the FMB, even if it was knocked back, than not go forward at all. JA suggested that a wider grouping of people

would be needed if funding might be found and proposed that the proposal be discussed at the AMB and FMB meetings the following week. RL pointed out that part-funding could be a way forward. JA proposed that the AAP recommend to the FMB that the AAP 'sees value' in funding the post. It was proposed that DECC send out an annex to all AAP attendees ahead of the meeting minutes to gauge attendees' thoughts on whether the REPO should be recommended to the FMB for funding.

- **Action 1 DECC to send around to all AAP attendees an annex in advance of the meeting minutes giving attendees the option to vote on whether the CAA REPO post should be recommended to the FMB for funding.**

## **5. Eskdalemuir**

Although dropped from the agenda owing to Simon Coote sending his apologies, TF gave a short summary of recent developments including a meeting that had taken place between RES, EON, EDF, SSE and Scottish Power. DBo added that MOD were content to continue looking at the issue, including using their specialist, provided resources allow.

## **6. In-Fill Radar and TPS-77**

JA updated the meeting by saying that progress with Cambridge Consultants had been slow owing to complications, although the finalization of a deal could be imminent. There is an intention to do a 2-stage demonstration, including integration and with a hoped-for timescale of the end of 2011, although this is probably ambitious.

In relation to TPS-77, DBo informed the room that the Trimmingham radar in Norfolk has been installed and that MOD had signed an agreement for a second Lockheed Martin radar with an option for a third. JA drew attention to a recent debate in the House of Commons on the procurement of the TPS-77, as opposed to a BAE system. This can be viewed in Hansard.

## **7. Strategic Solution for Mitigation of Windfarms**

IM gave a Powerpoint presentation entitled 'A discussion on the merits of Multistatic Primary Surveillance Radar (MPSR). The feedback was generally positive on the presentation, although NATS had some concerns as the proposed strategic solution would be at odds with the new system that NATS have planned in the coming years. SW stated that the whole aviation community, both civil and military, could benefit immensely, through the identification of a more strategic solution, to help mitigate the effects of wind turbines on radars. In his view, multi-static primary radar could be one of the options that could prove a cheap and effective answer to this problem. Furthermore, he suggested that if a strategic solution, such as multi-static primary radar, was ever to become a reality, effective leadership and co-ordination regarding this matter would need to be displayed by Government. JA added that although AAP had done good work in recent years, a strategic solution would be preferable to a site by site approach. Although it's a potential solution, whether it's credible and achievable is another matter. DBe added that radar wasn't the only issue around windfarms, there are other issues also. The suggestion was made for a sub-group to come together and come up with a paper to look at the viability of MPSR as a strategic solution.

- **Action 2 AAP attendees to consider who should join the MPSR sub-group to look at the technical viability of this potential strategic solution.**

CM added that such a suggestion for a strategic solution feeds into agenda item 10 on a discussion of the AAP & AMB. Although much had been achieved, less had been achieved in recent months owing to financial constraints. JA proposed that a discussion document is circulated and forwarded to DECC on the future shape of the AAP & AMB. JA put forward the idea that as part of the review of the AAP and AMB, a strategic thread could be added as most of what is discussed at the moment is tactical.

- **Action 3 AAP attendees to contribute to a discussion document on the future direction and composition of the AAP & AMB by the end of October.**
- **Action 4 DECC to circulate a copy of the MPSR presentation to all attendees, once cleared by CAA (SRG).**

### **8. Raytheon**

BK informed the meeting that although Raytheon looked promising, until a developer comes forward with a proposition to use Raytheon, it is unlikely to move forward. There was a feeling in NATS the Raytheon report needs to be made more widely available if developers are going to appreciate the use it could have. However, the permission of the R&D funders would have to be sought if the report were to be made more widely available. RL added that he could think of 2 developments that would benefit from Raytheon. DBE furthered that DfT would like to see the report published as NATS are waiting for developers to come and talk to them. JA made it known that circumstances have changed since Raytheon R&D was funded and that maybe a 'close-out' meeting was needed. MC suggested that NATS hold a Raytheon information day to inform developers of the outcome of the R&D on the system. RL warned that those developers who do pay for it may want to have exclusive use of the system they've paid for.

### **9. Any Other Business**

SW requested the dates for AAP meetings in 2012 be set as soon as possible to help with planning activities during this Olympic year.

- **Action 5 DECC to circulate proposed dates for AAP & AMB meetings in 2012.**

DBO informed the group that e-mails for the Defence Infrastructure Organization (DIO) will change soon.

### **Action Points**

1.	DECC	To send around to all AAP attendees an annex in advance of the meeting minutes giving attendees the option to vote on whether the CAA REPO post should be recommended to the FMB for funding.
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2.	All Attendees	To consider who should join the MPSR sub-group to look at the technical viability of this potential strategic solution.
3.	All Attendees	To contribute to a discussion document on the future direction and composition of the AAP & AMB by the end of October.
4.	DECC	To circulate a copy of the MPSR presentation to all attendees, once cleared by CAA (SRG).
5.	DECC	To circulate proposed dates for AAP & AMB meetings in 2012.

**END**