



**Meeting of the Airports Commission
30th March 2015 - 10:00am to 14:45pm
Rm 6.02 Sanctuary Buildings**

Attendees:

Commission members:

Howard Davies - Chair
John Armitt
Ricky Burdett
Vivienne Cox
Julia King

Secretariat (agenda items):

Philip Graham



External Attendees (agenda items 6 to 13):

[Redacted] - Jacobs
[Redacted] - Jacobs
[Redacted] - CAA
Charlotte Clark - EAP
Andrew Kempton - EAP

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting and asked if there were any updates to the register of interests. There were none.

2. Note of Last Meeting

The Chair invited any comments or changes to the note of last Commission meeting. Written comments had been incorporated and as there were no further comments the note was agreed.

3. Round up of stakeholder meetings

The Chair gave a short overview of meetings held since the last Commission meeting on 3 March.

4 March: Jeremy Heywood, Cabinet Secretary, Cabinet Office

Meeting to provide Jeremy Heywood an update on the Commission process to date.

5 March: Meeting with GAL

Meeting for GAL to explain to the Commission its proposed contract with HMG if the Commission recommended GAL's proposal. GAL took the opportunity to raise their concerns about the Commission's forecasts and the PwC economic work. These matters are being considered as part of the work to analyse responses to the consultation.

11 March: Philip Rutnam, Permanent Secretary and Lucy Chadwick, Director General, International, Security and Environment, DfT.

The meeting focussed on the process before and after general election. HD would not have meetings with new ministers before publication but may meet with Philip Rutnam and Jeremy Heywood. It was proposed that a round of courtesy calls the day before publication may be made. PG noted that DfT are currently working on arrangements for receiving the Commission's Final Report and preparing to take any work forward.

ACTION: The Chair suggested Secretariat seek views on the Gatwick proposed contract from HMT.

ACTION: PG to have a further discussion with DfT about taking Commission work forward post publication.

The Commission requested that elements of governance and the role of Government should be part of the final report. PG confirmed this is consistent with the Commission's remit and would be discussed at the Commission meeting on 9th April.

4. Update on analysis and any current concerns

PG gave a short update on progress. There is an ongoing discussion with the Committee on Climate Change regarding the carbon capped scenario and modelling results. The Secretariat is expecting the first draft of the Air Quality report shortly, and a decision whether to carry out a consultation on the results from this, if substantially different from what the Commission has already published, would be made once the report was received.

5. Final report structure

The Secretariat presented the final report timeline, taking the Commission through the drafting process and what documentation to expect over the coming months. A draft

of the final report will be circulated later in the week commencing 30 March with the next draft to be circulated by the end of April.

ACTION: Commission to review draft of final report and provide initial comments and feedback at 9 April Commission meeting with any further comments by the 17 April.

The Secretariat confirmed the final report is likely to be the same length as the interim report (between 150 and 200 pages in length) with a range of supporting documents. The Commission emphasised that the quality and content of the executive summary for the final report would be key to ensuring that the Commission's decision process was well understood. The Secretariat gave a short presentation on how the noise narrative will fit into the final report and confirmed the topics on mitigating noise impacts and the independent aviation noise authority (IANA) will be discussed in further detail at the next Commission meeting.

6. Noise history, context and narrative

The Secretariat gave a short presentation on previous work on noise, the scenarios considered, the context and narrative. Consultants and EAPs were introduced to the Commission before the Secretariat gave an overview to the Commission of the presentations and papers to be delivered at the meeting.

7. Consultation responses

The Secretariat gave an overview of the number and types of consultation responses received from individuals, organisations, the aviation industry and MP's. The Secretariat confirmed that the consultation responses covered a range of issues such as flight paths, noise metrics, technological assumptions and manufacturer's future aircraft noise profiles. It was noted that the wide range of metrics used by the Commission in assessing this issue had been widely seen as a positive step.

8. Uncertainty in noise modelling and assumptions

██████████ (CAA) gave a presentation on the uncertainty in forecast and noise contours. The subsequent discussion covered a range of detailed points on possible mitigations. It was confirmed that impacts on noise from changes to aircraft departures would be limited but changes to aircraft approach may have a greater impact and may help alleviate noise in the future. Changes to aircraft fleet mix and the impact on future noise was discussed, although it was noted that there is inherent uncertainty around fleet mix and it is heavily market dependent.

9. Health impacts on noise

Charlotte Clark (EAP) gave a presentation on the health impacts of noise and pointed to a number of case studies that would be informative for the Commission to consider. It was noted that no studies have been done focussing on the population around Gatwick as the sample size is considered to be statistically too small. Issues regarding mental health, effects on children and annoyance were all considered in the discussion.

10. Night noise

The Secretariat gave a short presentation on work carried out assessing night noise and its impacts. The Commission raised a question of the definition of "night" in relation

to night flights to ensure consistency. The Chair advised that options to reduce night noise would be discussed in further detail at the 9th April Commission meeting.

11. Respite

The Secretariat gave a short presentation on consultation responses regarding respite followed by a further presentation on this topic from [REDACTED]. The discussion focussed on if and how respite can be delivered by the three schemes. Changes to approaches and/or departures, wind direction, and runway alternation were all discussed.

12. Tranquillity

The Secretariat gave a short presentation on *tranquillity* to the Commission. This was a key issue raised by residents around Gatwick in their consultation responses. [REDACTED] (Jacobs) gave an overview of the methodology used for measuring tranquillity, he commented that tranquillity and ambient noise are different, in which tranquillity is both visual and perception. The difficulty in measuring and comparing the impact on tranquillity in different environments was noted.

13. Modelling Results

The Secretariat presented the noise maps for Commission consideration. The Secretariat talked through the different maps and what they were illustrating in terms of increase or reduction in the number of people affected and the levels of noise different parts of the local population would be exposed to in a range of scenarios.

ACTION: Jacobs to produce revised noise maps for Commission showing the change in noise impacts from the 'do minimum' for each scheme (i.e. showing where populations have been added to and removed from noise contours).

14. Narrative

The Secretariat gave a further presentation on how the noise narrative fits into the final report for each shortlisted option and how the results would be represented.

15. AoB

PG confirmed the planning assumption date for the Final Report is 11 June, however a fall back date(s) may be required due to possibility of further consultation and/or a delay in a new government being announced.

ACTION: Secretariat to look at potential dates after 11th June.

The Commission agreed to have a private breakfast meeting on 11 May before the Commission meeting (DN: Timings confirmed post meeting as 8:30-10:00am).

ACTION: Secretariat to organise breakfast meeting on 11 May.