

Aviation and Defence Management Board - Minutes

Date and Time: 13:00-14:30, Thursday 4th September 2025

Location: 3-8 Whitehall Place, London SW1A 2AW

Organisations in attendance:

Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ)
Department for Transport (DfT)
Ministry of Defence (MoD)
Scottish Government
Welsh Government
Northern Ireland Executive
RenewableUK
ONWARD 2030
Airports UK
The Aviation Investment Fund Company Limited (AIFCL)
NATS

Summary

- Chair opened the meeting and noted key updates since the Aviation Management Board was last held in May 2024, such as the Onshore Wind Taskforce and publication of the Onshore Wind Taskforce Strategy.
- Chair set out the functions of the Aviation and Defence Management Board and outlined the responsibility of the Board for the for the delivery of the Aviation and Defence commitments in the Onshore Wind Taskforce Strategy.
- The Board discussed the Terms of Reference and provided comment. Specific actions were noted where amendments were required.
- DfT provided progress updates on the actions owned by Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and DfT in the Onshore Wind Taskforce Strategy:
 - Action 23 – Develop best practice guidance on use of non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) when resolving aviation objections
 - Action 26 – Explore creating a new post in CAA
 - Action 27 – Review and publish updated CAP764 guidance
 - Action 28 – Review of regulations to consider options to require civil aerodromes to procure new primary surveillance radars that have windfarm mitigation capabilities
- DESNZ provided progress updates on the actions owned by DESNZ in the Onshore Wind Taskforce Strategy:
 - Action 22 – Commission an annual survey of onshore wind impacts on aviation and defence infrastructure
 - Action 29 – Explore the creation of a ‘mitigation fund’ to issue financial support to civil airports who require radar upgrades
 - Action 30 & 31 – Actions in relation to Eskdalemuir
- The following actions in the Onshore Wind Taskforce Strategy owned by MoD are being managed in an alternative forum. MoD were invited to provide an update on:
 - Action 24 – Co-ordinate a developer-funded programme of trials to test potential solutions to onshore wind turbine interference with MoD air traffic control radars
 - Action 25 – Introduce a developer-funded, full-time post in the MoD

- The Board heard the presentation of a case study.
- Chair set out next steps:
 - Secretariat to share minutes, actions and Terms of Reference with the Board following the meeting.
 - Progress on Onshore Wind Taskforce Strategy commitments will be reported into the Onshore Wind Council. Action owners will be contacted by the Secretariat to provide updates ahead of the next Council meeting.
- Chair called the meeting to a close.