

**STANSTED AIRPORT ADVISORY PANEL held at COUNCIL OFFICES  
LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN at 7.30 pm on 14 OCTOBER 2002**

Present:- Councillor A C Streeter – Chairman.  
Councillors Mrs J F Cheetham, A Dean, Mrs E J Godwin,  
R A Merrion, G Sell, and P A Wilcock.

Also present:- Councillors Mrs C A Cant, P G F Lewis, Mrs J E Menell,  
D M Miller, R J O'Neill, A R Row, R W L Stone and A R Thawley

Officers in Attendance:- W Cockerell, R Harborough, B D Perkins and  
M T Purkiss

**SA22 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs M A Caton,  
M L Foley and R C Smith.

**SA23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Mrs J F Cheetham, A Dean, Mrs E J Godwin, Mrs J E Menell,  
A C Streeter and P A Wilcock declared their interests as members of SSE.

**SA24 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Advisory Panel held on 2 October 2002  
were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**SA25 BUSINESS ARISING**

**(i) Minute SA20 (i) Public Meetings and Consultation**

In response to questions from Councillor Mrs Cheetham, the Director of  
Community Services said that no formal response had been received to either  
of the letters which had been sent to the Department for Transport. However,  
some Members understood that negotiations were taking place concerning a  
further exhibition at Bishops Stortford, but this would require a ministerial  
decision.

**SA26 DISCUSSION PAPER – UPDATE**

Following consideration of the discussion paper at the last meeting, further  
information was provided for an area in the vicinity of the proposed airport  
boundary. It was noted that a number of churches and schools would need  
to be added to the map. Officers also agreed to prepare information for the  
next meeting showing the impact within the 54 dBA area.

SA27

## **DfT QUESTIONNAIRE**

At the last meeting, Members had been advised that the Council's public relations consultants had suggested that Members should fill in the DfT questionnaire and a representative of the consultants attended the meeting to assist consideration of this matter.

The consultant said that it was important for people to complete the questionnaire in order that the number returned from the Stansted area was high. Whilst he recognised that some of the questions were flawed, it would be possible to leave those questions blank. He suggested that, in addition to completing the questionnaire, people should also write individual letters to the Department for Transport.

The consultant said that there was significant scope to challenge the questionnaire and consultation process, particularly as a copy had not been sent to every household, some questions were loaded and questionnaires in the other regions pointed to development in the south east rather than in their own area.

The Advisory Panel considered each of the questions and suggested an appropriate response. Officers would prepare a draft which would be considered further at the next meeting.

The Advisory Panel also asked that a letter be sent to the Department for Transport requesting that the questionnaire be sent to every resident in Uttlesford and that a copy of the electoral register should be sent with this to enable the Department to undertake this work.

SA28

## **UPDATE ON STRATEGIC ISSUES**

The Advisory Panel considered a note setting out the issues which needed to be addressed and which could be included in the Council's response to the Government. In relation to the section on environmental costs of aviation, it was made clear that the cost of increases in emissions from aircraft that contributed to global warming must be met by the aviation industry through the payment of environmental taxes. Members also suggested that the note should express opposition to emissions trading.

The section on taxation should emphasise that aviation benefited from not having to pay tax on aviation fuel, whilst car fuel was taxed at approximately 80%. Members suggested that the section on compensation should state that it should be based on market levels as at 30 June 2002 and must be paid much more speedily.

In relation to aircraft noise assessments, Members suggested that officers should keep informed of the CAA Study on noise effects research from aircraft noise. Members noted in relation to the noise insulation scheme that in rural areas much activity took place out of doors.

Further sections on night noise restrictions, environmental controls, financial incentives and charges, off-site infrastructure and air traffic control were considered. The final section referred to sustainability principles and Members felt that attention should be drawn to the inconsistencies between the airport proposals and the Government's national transport, environmental and sustainability policies.

SA29

### **PROGRESS REPORT**

Members considered a progress report together with some possible options for the Government to meet varying levels of demand which would involve no more runways at Stansted. These would be developed at future meetings and the issue of using rail rather than internal flights would be taken into account.

Members were advised of the current position with the referendum and the work of the consultants. The consultant said that people should be urged to write to the Secretary of State and copy their letter to their local Member of Parliament. The Council should also do everything to encourage a good turnout in the referendum. A press release would be issued this week and publicity would be included in the Council Page on 24 October. It was also understood that SSE was producing a flyer on the referendum.

SA30

### **NEXT MEETINGS**

It was agreed that further meetings would be held on 21 and 30 October and 4 November 2002 at 6.30 pm at Saffron Walden.

The meeting ended at 9.35 pm.