

**STANSTED AIRPORT ADVISORY PANEL held at COUNCIL OFFICES
SAFFRON WALDEN at 7.00 pm on 22 APRIL 2003**

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

Also present at the invitation of the Chairman: Councillor P G F Lewis.

Officers in attendance:- W Cockerell, R Harborough, Miss R Haylock and
B D Perkins.

SA76 COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING

Councillor Mrs Cheetham reminded those present that the meeting should have started at 7.30 pm and requested that meetings should be held at 7.30 pm in the future.

SA77 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Dean and Foley.

SA76 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Cheetham declared her interest as a member of SSE and NWHEEPA.

Councillors Mrs Godwin, Lewis and Merrion declared their interests as members of SSE.

Councillor Sell declared his interest as a member of Stansted Parish Council.

SA77 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 24 March 2003 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

SA78 STANSTED AIRPORT FLIGHT EVALUATION UNIT AUDIT REVIEW 2002

The Panel considered the Stansted Airport Audit Report 2003.

Members supported the recommendation that the format of the complaints statistics were confusing and needed to be simplified.

In addition Members added that response and feedback from complaints was too slow and that a speedier reply was necessary. Officers agreed to pursue this.

(i) Track-Keeping

Members expressed concern that the system of implementing automatic fines for planes which stray out of the Noise Preferential Route (NPR) area was not being imposed as strictly as it ought to. Members noted the Audit recommendation which tightened existing practice but wanted officers to pursue the apparent sanctioning of flying outside the NPR without automatic fining.

(ii) Engine testing

The Head of Environmental Services informed Members that the noise pen was only usable in 30% of weather conditions. However the number of complaints had not been significant. He also informed Members that documentation was incomplete in a number of cases when the compass base was used and the recommendation was that revised procedures had to be introduced. Members also expressed concern that helicopter noise had increased during 2002.

Members noted the survey proposed in relation to the usage of APUs but wanted minimal usage of APUs as soon as possible. Members suggested the mobile noise monitor was inadequate and that a new permanent monitor was required to complement that provided by the Council. The additional monitor should be provided by the Airport. Councillor Mrs Godwin expressed concern that a serious odour problem was developing as a direct result of airport pollution. The Head of Environmental Services informed Members that an odour study would be taking place in the near future.

Members noted the Audit report with its recommendations and that it be passed to STAL for agreement and action. However, the additional points raised by them were to be pursued separately with STAL.

SA79

COUNCIL RESPONSE TO SECOND SERAS CONSULTATION

The Director of Community Services informed Members that Uttlesford District Council was working closely with various organisations to ensure the most effective response was devised. He suggested that in order to prevent further runways at Stansted it must be stressed to the Government that making use of existing capacity generally and developing the potential within the regions would be more than enough capacity to cater for requirements for the next 15-20 years. Councillor Mrs Cheetham expressed disappointment that off-shore options had not been considered as part of the consultation.

SA80

AVIATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT – USING ECONOMIC INSTRUMENTS: JOINT DfT/HM TREASURY PAPER

The document focused on 3 key issues. These were climate change, noise and local air quality. Councillor Mrs Cheetham expressed concern that Members' views needed to be considered which could form part of the response on the second SERAS consultation. The Director of Community Services stressed that the information in the report was of a very technical

nature, and it would be very difficult to come up with different methodology. Officers were liaising with adjoining authorities.

SA81 MINUTES OF THE STACC MEETING HELD ON 22 JANUARY 2003

Councillor Mrs Godwin referred to page 5, paragraph 10 commenting that the process of dealing with complaints was very slow. She also noted the compensation process was slow and it was agreed that the Council should write to the DfT.

SA82 AGENDA OF STACC

The Director of Community Services had received a draft agenda for the STACC meeting to be held on 30 April 2003. He reported that Mr M Clasper (Chief Executive Designate of BAA) would be speaking at the meeting. Also included on the agenda were night flying restrictions and a STACC response to SERAS consultation.

SA83 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Following a proposal by Councillor Smith, it was agreed that once STAL had received the Audit Report it should be made more generally available to inform others and to help ensure that STAL delivers improvements

Councillor Streeter thanked all the officers for their hard work and co-operation, and the support of Members.

SA84 FUTURE MEETINGS

The Director of Community Services reported that an extra meeting would be arranged in late May/early June to consider the draft response to the second SERAS consultation before being decided by Council on 12 June 2003.

The meeting ended at 8.40 pm.