

**STANSTED AIRPORT ADVISORY PANEL held at COUNCIL OFFICES
SAFFRON WALDEN at 7.30 pm on 29 MAY 2003**

Present:- Councillor P A Wilcock – Chairman.
Councillors K R Artus, J F Cheetham, D Corke, A Dean, R M
Lemon, J P Murphy, G Sell and A R Thawley.

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

SA1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M L Foley and
E J Godwin.

Councillor Corke declared an interest as a member of Essex Wildlife Trust.
Councillors Corke and Dean declared an interest as shareholders in BAA.
Councillor Cheetham declared an interest as a member of NWEPPHA.
Councillor Artus declared an interest as a member of Broad Oak Against
Aircraft Noise Group.

The following Members declared their interests as members of SSE:

Councillors J F Cheetham, D Corke, A Dean, J P Murphy and A R Thawley.

SA2 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 22 April 2003 were received, confirmed
and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

SA3 MATTERS ARISING

Members discussed the current situation regarding the Stansted Airport Flight
Evaluation Audit Review. It was reported responses were still awaited from
BAA. Members agreed that the audit report should be published shortly and
STAL should be so advised.

SA4 RESPONSE TO SECOND SERAS CONSULTATION

The Panel considered the working draft of a supplementary response to the
second SERAS consultation. The draft emphasised that there was nothing in
the Second Edition document from the Department for Transport that caused
the Council to withdraw any of its representations made in November 2002
and that all the evidence emerging over recent months reinforced its message
that additional runway capacity was not appropriate. In the working draft of
the supplementary submission it was proposed to update the Council's
representations, looking further at three strands: aviation should fully pay its
external costs; best use should be made of capacity in the regions; and key

issues relating specifically to additional runway capacity at Stansted, particularly rail access.

Members made points about the need to give greater emphasis to a number of issues, including rail substitution for air travel, the subsidies to aviation in various forms, and airspace capacity. Members commented on the need for the representation to be reformatted to break up the text. Officers would revise the working draft in the light of Members' comments. It was agreed to ask the Strategic Rail Authority for the preliminary technical studies on Stansted to which reference was made in Appendix 1 of BAA's response to the DfT.

SA5 **REVIEW OF EXISTING NIGHT FLIGHT RESTRICTIONS**

Members considered the above report. The Head of Environmental Services informed Members that the current period categorised as the 'night quota period' spanned from 2330 to 0600, which he considered to be an inadequate night period. He reported that the Council considered that there should be a total night flight ban between 2300 and 0700 hours at Stansted and preferably at all three airports for all but emergency flights.

The Panel discussed the suggested response to the various questions raised in the consultation. It was agreed that the most important message to get across to Government was current Council policy. Councillor Cheetham considered that the obligations that Stansted Airport Limited had entered into in the s106 Agreement with regards to night flights should be drawn to the DfT's attention. Councillor Dean suggested an amendment be made to the answer to question 7 in that the move to no night flights should be achieved 'rapidly' rather than 'progressively'.

In addition, it was agreed that the recent legal obligations by STAL in relation to their recent planning approval, including not seeking any relaxation of current night flight restrictions, should be included in the response.

RESOLVED that the above comments be recommended to the Environment and Transport Committee as this Council's response to the Department for Transport.

SA6 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Director of Community Services informed the Panel of the meeting between representatives of the four most affected authorities from development at Stansted. They were united in their total opposition to further runways at Stansted and would continue their close joint cooperation. He stressed the importance of the media/lobby consultants working closely together. However, he emphasised the value of, and need to, retain the Council's own advisers as a small authority taking a leading role on a big issue.

The Panel agreed that it would be helpful to meet with Mike Clasper (Chief Executive Designate of BAA) before the next STAAC meeting on 30 July 2003 for an informal discussion.

Councillor A Dean informed the Panel of a recent meeting with Bell Pottinger, the Council's media advisers, in which they had discussed their work with SSE. The Council was continuing to support SSE on various projects. Councillor Cheetham requested that a representative from Bell Pottinger be invited to attend a future meeting to give an update of their work.

SA7

FUTURE MEETINGS

28 July 2003
20 October 2003

The Panel felt that an additional meeting of STAAP was necessary and proposed 11 September subject to confirmation.

The meeting ended at 9.40 pm.