

**STANSTED AIRPORT ADVISORY PANEL held at COUNCIL OFFICES
LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN at 5.00 pm on 14 OCTOBER 2004**

Present:- Councillor P A Wilcock – Chairman.
Councillors J F Cheetham, D Corke, A Dean and E J Godwin.

Also present:- Councillor C A Cant.

Officers in attendance:- W G Cockerell, R Harborough, J Pine and
M T Purkiss.

SA73 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K R Artus, M L Foley, R F Freeman, R M Lemon, J P Murphy, G Sell and A R Thawley.

Councillors C A Cant, A Dean, E J Godwin and P A Wilcock declared their interests as members of SSE and drew attention to the dispensation from the Standards Committee.

SA74 NIGHT FLIGHT RESTRICTIONS

Members recalled that the Panel and subsequently the Environment Committee had previously considered reports on Night Flying Restrictions at Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted. The Council's response to the Department for Transport on the Stage I consultation needed to be submitted by 29 October 2004. The Panel considered a detailed report which set out the recommendations of the LGA Strategic Aviation Special Interest Group Chairman's Advisory Group and Members were asked to consider whether they endorsed those views. The Environment Committee had previously agreed that the Council's response should incorporate Members' detailed comments and be finalised by officers in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Environment Committee.

The Panel then considered the suggested comments and responses to the nine specific questions and agreed that these should form the basis of the Council's response to the Department for Transport and stated that the response should stress that the Council's policy is that there should be a phased withdrawal of night flights working towards a total ban on night flights except for emergencies.

SA75 AIR NOISE ISSUES – PRESENTATION BY MORRIS MILSTEAD

Members received a detailed presentation from Morris Milstead on 'Aspects of Noise Limitation at Stansted Airport'.

Mr Milstead said that the aims of the presentation were to:

- Review current and proposed traffic levels and routes
- Review current noise control procedures

- Explain the metrics used to quantify aircraft noise and its effects
- Discuss strategies for noise limitation at Stansted.

In relation to the policy framework for noise limitation, he said that possible local authority planning restrictions should include:

- 1 An enforceable cap on total noise impact that allows for aircraft expansion whilst assuming the benefits of quieter aircraft.
- 2 The aim should be to ensure that the total noise impact grows at a slower rate than both passenger numbers and aircraft movements.

Mr Milstead concluded his presentation with the following summary

- More importance needs to be attached to aircraft noise outside the 57dBA L_{eq} contour.
- A weighted L_{eq} is as good as any other single number metric, but does not tell the whole story
- The degree of uncertainty associated with the dose response relationship needs to be more clearly set out
- The Quota Count System is an effective planning tool and should be used in parallel with L_{eq} land area contours.
- Operational controls over individual flights are essential, but there also need to be planning restrictions incorporating a realistic and enforceable cap on both total noise impact and movements that properly balances the needs of the airport and the community.
- The benefits of quieter aircraft should be incorporated into the planning restrictions for the expanding airport with the aim of ensuring that source reductions are not simply traded for increased movements.

The Chairman thanked Mr Milstead for his excellent presentation and said that it would be useful in helping to formulate the Council's response to the Stage II consultation.

SA76 **ADDITIONAL NOISE INSULATION AND ASSISTANCE SCHEMES**

Consideration of this matter was deferred to the meeting on 25 October 2004, to enable all Members of the Panel to be provided with a copy of the BAA Stansted document 'Protecting Against Airport Noise'.

SA77 **HOME OWNER SUPPORT SCHEME**

It was noted that Stansted Airport Ltd had finalised its voluntary initiative on 20 September and the scheme would come into effect on 4 January 2005.

During the consultation period, the Council had raised several concerns, including the sole use of the 66dBA L_{eq} contour to define the scheme area based on the long term modal split for runway use of 75:25, rather than on a 100:100 basis; the 66 dBA level; the lack of consideration of night flight contours; the resulting arbitrary boundaries on the ground and the focus on owner occupiers.

The Panel also considered a paper setting out the Council's response to the consultation and the further response which had been received from BAA Stansted.

Councillor Cheetham referred to the Mori poll and said that she had asked BAA Stansted for a copy of the questions that had been asked and had been refused access to these. Councillor Wilcock said that he would raise this issue at the next STACC meeting.

Following further discussion it was agreed that officers in consultation with the Leader of the Council should finalise the details of a letter to go to the Department for Transport and BAA with a copy to Sir Alan Haselhurst MP. It was also agreed that the letter should state that the home owner support scheme was unfair, discriminatory, covered too small an area, was inflexible and ignored those in rented accommodation. In addition, the scheme did not deal with generalised blight and made the incorrect assumption that blight was related solely to noise.

Councillor Cheetham also referred to action being taken by Takeley Parish Council and said that legal advice was being obtained. It was considered that, once the advice had been received, the Council's officers should look at whether it was possible support any legal action being taken by the parish council.

SA78 **AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

The following items would be included as agenda items for the next meeting to be held on Monday 25 October 2004 at 7.30 pm;

- Business Development and Planning Issues - Presentation by BAA
- Airport Masterplan
- Planning obligations and environmental monitoring
- Section 106 agreement monitoring update
- Energy management strategy
- Additional noise insulation and assistance schemes
- Progress report on Duxford Airfield

SA79 **EAST OF ENGLAND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (EEDA)**

Councillor Dean said that at the last meeting of the East of England Regional Assembly's Executive Committee consideration had been given to the new Regional Economic Strategy prepared by EEDA. The draft strategy had contained support for the aviation white paper and for a second runway. However, Councillor Dean had put forward an amendment to reject this part of the economic strategy and the amendment had been approved without opposition.