

STANSTED AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Conflicts of interest

Background

1. At the January STACC meeting, one Member raised the issue of conflict of interests and stated that Members of the Committee should make declarations of interest. A limited number of Members then advised the meeting of such interests

2. At the April meeting , the Chairman said that the Secretary had received the following Question from a member of the public relating to the conflicts of interest issue which had been raised at the January meeting.

"At the January 2018 STACC meeting a committee member, Brian Ross, was silenced by the Chairman when he asked for declarations of interest from STACC members. Is it not right for STACC members to be open and transparent to the public and all concerned about any payments, fees and expenses that they received from those who have a vested interest, in this case, Stansted Airport, and if so, please ask STACC members to declare those interests. When I pursue issues relevant to the public I always declare my interests even though I receive no fees from any group or organisation."

3. The Chairman said that this was an important issue that required proper consideration and should be discussed at the Annual Meeting of the Committee in June

4. STACC operates in accordance with the Department for Transport's Guidelines for airport consultative committees. These were last issued in April 2014. The Department recommends that committees should have regard to the Code of Conduct annexed to the Guidelines. This Code has been incorporated into STACC's Constitution.

5. The Code of Conduct covers the following:-

Respect: Committee members should treat each other with respect and courtesy at all times.

Commitment: Committee members should dedicate sufficient time to prepare for and attend meetings, including seeking advice and views from others in their organisation where appropriate.

Conflicts of Interest: Members should identify and declare any conflicts of interest (actual, potential or perceived), particularly where members do not represent an organisation.

Participation: Members should participate fully in meetings. They should listen to what others have to say and keep an open mind while contributing constructively to discussions. Actions assigned to members should be fulfilled in a timely manner and progress reported back at the next meeting.

Openness and Accountability: Members should be open and accountable to each other and the organisations and communities they represent about their work on the committee.

Confidentiality: Members should respect the status of any confidential issues they discuss.

6. In considering the issue of conflicts of interest, Members will be aware that the Committee's Constitution requires that membership should reflect an equitable balance across the three categories of interest set out in Section 35(1) of the Civil Aviation Act (as amended). This is to ensure that all the key different interests affected by the operation of the airport are represented on the Committee to facilitate a balanced discussion.

7. STACC's Constitution provides that there should be an independent Chairman of the Committee appointed by the Committee in accordance with arrangements approved by the Committee from time to time. The Constitution also states that:-

“ The Committee shall comprise twenty one members as follows:

Chairman of the Committee

Users (representatives):

Business passengers

Freight

Non Business/leisure passengers

Passenger airlines

Passengers with (or with an interest in) restricted mobility

Retail interests

Local Authorities:

Braintree District Council

East Hertfordshire District Council

Epping Forest District Council

Essex County Council

Harlow District Council

Hertfordshire County Council

Uttlesford District Council

Local Interests (representatives):

Commerce and business
Hertfordshire Association of Local and Parish Councils
Environment
'Stop Stansted Expansion'
Surface Access
Tourism
Uttlesford Association of Local Councils"

It is therefore expected that Members will advance the views and interests of their representative organisations.

8. In preparation for the Annual Meeting Members were requested to provide the Secretary and Technical Adviser with details of any potential conflicts of interests. As Members will be aware, the Committee is funded by the airport in accordance with statutory legislation that airports should provide "facilities for consultation". Although funding is provided by the airport on an annual basis, the Budget is administered independently by the Committee. Under the budget, the Chairman, Secretary and Technical Adviser receive annual fees and the two Chairs of the Working Groups receive annual honoraria.

9. Members have provided the following information:-

Brian Ross

Member of SSE, National Trust and CPRE. Shareholder in Ryanair and easyJet.

Simon Walsh

Member: Essex County Council Member,
Member: Great Bardfield Parish Council

Member, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority Member, Anglian (Eastern) Regional Flood & Coastal Committee Member, Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority Member, Essex Coastal Forum Member, Essex Rural Partnership

Member: National Trust, RSPB, Conservative Party Royal Yachting Association, Marine Conservation Society. Fellow, Royal society for the Arts; Fellow, Royal Society of Medicine; Fellow, Chartered Institute for the Management of Sports and Physical Activity; Member, Chartered Institute for the Management of Ecology and Environment; Chartered Environmentalist of the Society for the Environment. Stansted Airport Community Trust - trustee appointed by Braintree District Council Partner: National Trust, RSPB, Conservative Party Member of Great Bardfield Town Hall Committee

Graham McAndrew

Member: Bishop's Stortford Town Council

Member: East Herts District Council

Member: Hertfordshire County Council

Keith Artus

Chairman : Strategic Aviation Special Interest Group (SASIG)

10. No other information has been provided by Members of any conflicts of interest.

11. Members are invited to note the above information

**Stansted Airport Consultative Committee
June 2018**

CURRENT STACC MEMBERSHIP

(as at June 2018)

CHAIRMAN

Shena Winning

USERS

Freight interests – David Leigh

Passenger airline interests (1) – Chris Hughes (representing Airline Operators Committee)

Business passengers – Peter Odrich

Passengers with (or with an interest in) restricted mobility – Peter Lainson

Non business / leisure passengers – Julie Jones

Retail interests – Vacant

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Braintree District Council – Hylton Johnson

East Hertfordshire District Council – Gary Jones

Epping Forest District Council – Mary Sartin

Essex County Council – Simon Walsh

Harlow District Council – Danny Purton

Hertfordshire County Council – Graham McAndrew

Uttlesford District Council – Keith Artus

LOCAL INTERESTS

Environmental interests – Vacant

Hertfordshire Association of Local and Parish Councils – Angela Alder

Stop Stansted Expansion – Brian Ross

Commerce and business interests – Haydon Yates

Tourism interests – Vacant

Surface access interests – Rufus Barnes

Uttlesford Association of Local Councils – Jackie Cheetham