STANSTED AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Environmental Issues Group

Wednesday 1 February 2023
1400-1600

Hybrid Meeting
Dove Meeting Room

Those present:-

Andrew Huggins - Chair
Shena Winning
Graham McAndrew
Frank Evans - Secretary and Technical Adviser

MAG

Adam Freeman - Head of ESG & Environmental Strategy
Duncan Smith - Flight Evaluation Unit Manager
Tom Rix - Head of Asset Development: Utilities, Energy & Environment
Daniel Burford - Community Engagement Manager

AGENDA

1. Apologies

Jackie Cheetham and Aubrey Holt

2. Minutes of last meeting

The Group **AGREED** the draft minutes of the meeting held on 23 November as a true record.

3. Matters arising

None

4. Runway Works

The Group received a presentation from Luke Gaynham - Senior Project Manager. The 22 week programme was well underway.This entailed 11 weeks of full runway closure and 11 weeks of reduced distance operation. This applied Sundays to Thursdays between 2400 and 0600. The work was being carried out with regard to environmental considerations. In discussion it was suggested that reduced runway operations might result in increased noise impacts. The Group were advised that noise impacts were being monitored. It was noted that the works would result in improved management of surface water.

5. Noise Action Plan

The Group received two papers from the airport - one reporting on the existing plan and the second on the proposed new plan. The latter included a number of questions upon which the Group's comments were sought. It was agreed that the Group would provide a written response.
In discussion a number of issues were raised. These included departure noise limits; fining; reduced swathe; CDAs; metrics and night noise
The new Plan would be developed once EIG's comments had been received. It was planned to hold workshops in the spring followed by consultation.

6. Environmental Reporting and Benchmarking

The AMT had further revised the reporting template in the light of comments made by the Group in previous meetings. It was noted that the timing cycles for issues varied - some quarterly but others only on an annual basis. The Group welcomed these improvements. It was noted that energy consumption per person had been reduced. It was suggested that the report might be enhanced if colour codings were used to highlight positive and negative trends.

It was not proposed to publish the report until the autumn. It was suggested that STACC/EIG might issue a statement at the same time - indicating the ongoing work undertaken to monitor the airport's environmental performance.

7. CAA Consultation on the Revised Airspace Change Process Guidance (CAP1616)

Members noted that on 5 January, the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) had published a consultation on the Revised Airspace Change Process Guidance (CAP1616). The consultation was available on the CAA website and sought responses from interested parties. The Group received a paper which provided an overview of the consultation.

8. Airspace Modernisation Update

The airport was currently undertaking technical work on possible options. Key issues were likely to include route separation in the London Area and how any conflicts would be resolved.

9. Community Noise Monitoring Update

Work was in hand to identify a suitable site in Albury. It was suggested that consideration might also be given to a site in the area between Brookmans Park and Albury.

10. Winter performance

The Group received an informative paper on drainage management. It was noted that December had seen the first significant snowfall at the airport since 2018. The snow remained for a week following the initial fall and melted over a very short period of time.While the ponds were kept at a good level there were concerns about capacity and early discharge into waterways. There was also possibly an issue around the amount the water company could accept for treatment either in terms of total quantity or the flow rate.

11. Date of next meeting

23 May 2023