

Minutes of the 213th EACC Meeting held on Monday 4th August 2025

At The Novotel, Hermiston Gait – Edinburgh

Present Robert Carr (Chair)
Gordon Robertson (Communications Director EAL)
Greg Maxwell (Head Of External Media and Corporate Affairs EAL)
Miles Grima (Head Of Operations EAL)
Elin Owen (Content & Communication Manager EAL)
Adam Cumming Edinburgh Airport Amenities Group
Cllr Dave Dempsey Fife Council
Stephen Percy-Robb Fife Chamber Of Commerce
Donald Spencer Consumers Representative
Cllr Kevin Lang City Of Edinburgh Council
Peter Scott Cramond & Barnton Community Council
Cllr Tony Boyle West Lothian Council (For Tom Conn)
Ken McNab SPAA (Last Meeting before retirement)
Mike Tibbert General Manager Europe, Global Marine Travel, SPAA
Agnes Rothney Kirkliston Council
Gordon Mina Cramond & Barnton Community Council (For John Howison)
Rachel Ferguson (For Kate Nowakowska) as observer

Apologies Gordon Dewar (CEO EAL)
Janice Hogarth (EACC Secretary)
Blake Cushnie (EANAB)
David Dunphy Frequent Flyer Representative
Clare Johnston Passenger PRM Representative
Jimmy Martin ABTA
Elspeth Gray Ratho & District Community Council
Tom Conn West Lothian Council
John Howison Cramond & Barnton Community Council
Carolyn Police Scotland

1. Welcome

Robert Carr welcomed all members attending as well as two observers. He also welcomed Mike Tibbert who will replace Ken McNab. Robert thanked Ken for his long service on EACC and noted the fact that he was the longest serving member. A round of applause was given to Ken.

2. The minutes of the previous meeting

The draft minutes of the meeting on 5th May were approved

3. Other matters arising from the Minutes

Robert offered his thanks offered to Gordon Robertson and to Greg Maxwell for their help in producing and finalising the EACC Annual Report for 2024 which is now available on the web site.

4. Chief Executive's Report (EAL)

Access

Airport Road Access. There is no further update on this matter and it is still at the planning stage.

Noise

Noise Item. The consultation on the draft NAP is now closed and the document is still with The Scottish Government awaiting its comments and approval. EAL is hopeful of approval. Kevin Lang asked 'Why does the Scottish Government have to give approval?' Gordon Robertson replied that it is a requirement of Scottish Government that a NAP is produced and therefore they would need to approve it.

Ken McNab

On behalf of Gordon Dewar Gordon Robertson offered his sincere thanks to Ken McNab for all his years of work on the EACC and his invaluable contribution. The point was made that Ken had been "A great Warrior" on behalf of the travel trade.

Traffic Figures

Passenger figures for the quarter have increased to 4.6 million. This is a 6.3% increase over the same period 2024. International traffic showing an increase of 8.9% for the period. Aircraft traffic mix is good.

Capital Investment

There is still a considerable investment in Capital projects as highlighted in the CEO's report. This will increase in 2026 to £ 122 million from the current £ 90 million.

Gordon Mina asked what had happened to both the target/goal and KPIs on water quality stated in the Greater Good document issued in June 2021.

Action: Gordon Robertson to investigate the above enquiry from Gordon Mina on water quality in relation to EAL's Greater Good documents, and report back.

Gordon Mina also asked whether any assessment of lost income had been taken into account in relation to additional flights and destinations, given that it was likely that a larger percentage of night-time flights (vs daytime flights) would be taking holidaymakers out of Scotland to spend their money outside of the economy.

Action: Gordon Robertson to investigate the above enquiry from Gordon Mina on cost benefit analysis, and report back.”

Community Investment

The details of community investment are highlighted in the CEO’s report. Particular mention was made of the cooperation and support for The Edinburgh Children’s Hospital Charity (ECHC) The connection with ECHC will be ending after two years. Gordon Robertson urged EACC members to encourage other deserving charitable bodies to contact EAL about the possibility of support.

Surface Access

Use of the various bus services are increasing and being well used. The services from Dundee, and Stirling are all performing well. The new McGills route to Aberdeen – Fly Aberdeen, Stagecoach to St Andrews-787 and the new Ember route to Fort William-E4 are all in operation. Lothian 200 & 400 routes are now charged at city centre pricing and renamed 17 & 18 respectively. Full details on surface access on CEO’s report.

Passenger Satisfaction Analysis

Full details in the CEO report. The new scanners are now fully installed, operational and working well. The average time to get through security is now 8-10 minutes and has received a 94% approval rating from passengers.

Gordon Robertson said that the 100ml liquid restriction has now been increased to two litres and has been well received and accepted. Edinburgh is the only airport in Scotland offering this service.

Route Development

Fully covered in CEO report.

Passenger Satisfaction

Full details in the CEO report. The area with most enquiries is ‘Journey Preparation ‘ On a lighter note in reference to journey preparation, Greg Maxwell had a call from a passenger the previous day asking “If it was allowable to take a tin of Baked Beans through the

scanner” At the time the answer was not known. Kevin Lang referred to a recent journey, arriving at a packed security hall he was sure that there would be at least a thirty minute wait. He was actually through in five minutes. A tribute to how well the new systems are working. In Gordon Robertson’s words “ They are going like a train”

Ken McNab made comments on his observations of the experience of arriving at Edinburgh Airport including delays which he described as unacceptable and the condition of the arrivals hall and the security fencing. Gordon Robertson said that while he recognised the concerns of passengers, those with negative experiences of arrivals remained in the minority. Gordon Robertson described the arrivals area as a “functional hall”. Gordon Robertson stated these observations were being taken on board and acted on and were being factored into plans around the airport’s planned redevelopment. EAL was in a programme of continuously improving the passenger experience including the aesthetics of the physical environment subject to the over-riding security and safety requirements.

5. DfT Aviation Accessibility Report

Miles Grima gave a PowerPoint presentation covering aspects of accessibility within the airport. The full detail is in that PowerPoint which will be circulated to all members. Worthy of note and mention is the increase in PRM passengers (Persons with Reduced Mobility). Year on year this has increased by 23%. This degree of increase was not anticipated and has placed extra pressures on having enough airport staff available to assist these passengers. This number is expected to double by 2030. This creates additional expenses for the airport. Kevin Lang asked how these costs are met. Gordon Robertson said that the costs associated with PRM are met by the airlines and divided equally amongst them. This is set up by the CAA.

6. CAA Environmental Information Forum Update

This meeting was attended by Adam Cumming representing the EACC. Seventeen representatives were there six of which were from the CAA. The meeting should have been on the 19th May but was delayed to 17th July. A useful meeting in which terms of reference were updated. Adam commented that it is learning curve but getting better.

7. DfT Air Space Change Update.

Covered in the CEO report.

8. EANAB Update.

The EANAB annual report will shortly be available and will be circulated to all members in advance of the next meeting.

9. UKACC Update.

The weekly updates from the UKACC continue to be circulated to members by Janice and are of great interest and very informative. The UKACC Annual meeting will take place in Bristol on 27th & 28th November and will be attended by Robert and Janice on behalf of the EACC.

It was commented that Greg Maxwell's media reports are an invaluable source of additional information.

10. Review Of Rolling Action

All points covered. It was suggested that that a EANAB written report being included.

11. AOCB

There was no other business and the meeting was closed at 12.30 with the next meeting scheduled to take place on Monday 10th November at 10.30am at The Novotel.