

**Minutes of the meeting of the Edinburgh Airport Noise Review Panel (EANRP) on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021**

The meeting was held remotely via Microsoft Teams.

Attendees : **Robert Carr**, EACC Chair and Joint Convener of EANRP, **Cllr Kevin Lang** as EACC EANRP representative and Joint Convener of EANRP, **Janice Hogarth** as Secretary to the EACC (and minute taker for the EANRP), **Lindsay Cole**, the Chair of EANAB and member of EACC, and **Ray Godfree, Pippa Plevin & Bruce Finlayson** as EANAB EANRP representatives. **Gordon Robertson** as EAL Representative.

It had been agreed that Robert Carr would chair this meeting and Kevin Lang the following one.

The draft minutes were approved and there were no matters arising.

### **Comments on Kevin Lang Updated Draft Document**

It was agreed that the object of the process and the Report was, where possible, to arrive at a unanimous position and unanimous recommendations, but if that was not possible to report the alternative views that had been expressed.

Bruce Finlayson commented that the Report did not adequately emphasise that the legal responsibility for the management of noise and its minimisation and mitigation lay squarely and solely with EAL, and was not shared with any other body, such as EANAB. That was agreed and adjustments would be made to the next version of the Report by Kevin to reflect these points.

Bruce Finlayson commented that he felt the word “annoyance” in the draft did not adequately emphasise the detrimental impact of aircraft noise on health as there may be people who are being affected but they are not necessarily aware of this. It was not simply a matter of “annoyance”. There was a discussion about where the body of evidence about adverse health impacts now rested and the other detrimental impacts in addition to health. Kevin would make adjustments to the next version of the Report to reflect these points.

Ray Godfree commented on whether going forward the role of EANAB was properly described as “advisory”. There was a discussion that as a conduit to and from communities and EAL the role was different from advisory and that in any event EAL had the resource and requirement to take its own expert advice. Ray Godfree asked whether going forwards EANAB was to continue to be a body of volunteers representing communities or a group of qualified paid professionals answering the issues put to them for their advice. The consensus was that EANAB would continue to be a body of volunteers representing communities, but have the flexibility to commission its own independent expert advice when it thought that necessary, all as had been accepted by Gordon Robertson already.

Lindsay Cole commented that there was a big difference in what was happening now within EANAB compared to when the review started and that things were improving. Kevin would make adjustments to the next version of the Report by Kevin to reflect this point.

Kevin Lang explained that to reflect the views expressed in the EANRP discussions he had been trying to come up with a form of words that described this structure of an executive and a second group underneath that involving community councils. Gordon Robertson agreed that he thought that this idea was a good one. Robert Carr added that if it was a strongly held view by some EANRP members that some other structure was appropriate then those members could put forward their

alternative and that could be included in the Report and it would be up to EANAB and EAL which of the two recommendations were accepted, if any.

Gordon Robertson said that he felt that EANAB should be an integral part of decision-making and that communities should be consulted and have the opportunity for input.

Bruce Finlayson felt that the restructure could be good or that the original format could be kept but in either case, adequate funding must be provided.

Lindsay Cole followed up by saying that there had been a big change in EAL and in EANAB over the last year and he agreed that issues on membership should be resolved but that it was improving. This was confirmed by Gordon Robertson who felt that the appointment of Simon had been a big help and that the sub groups were working well. Gordon Robertson went on to say that he would hate to see this current collaborative approach lost.

Robert Carr wondered whether the panel review had helped and led to better co-operation. The EANAB members expressed the view that the EANRP process had a beneficial impact.

There was a comment about those who had responded being listed in the final document and Kevin Lang noted that not everyone had been willing to give feedback and be interviewed but a list of participants should be shown on the document.

Lindsay Cole asked for a change in his title from "current chair" to "chair" as per everyone else's titles. That was agreed.

It was agreed that there needed to be clarity on the make-up of the proposed executive group.

Kevin Lang talked about how to get the right balance and size of the proposed executive so that it was not too unwieldy and he had suggested the three geographical areas because those were the areas most affected by aircraft noise. The question was which areas and should other areas be suggested.

Kevin Lang indicated that he had a new project which would be needing his attention and this would mean that the report would need to be completed by Mid-December at the latest.

Kevin Lang commented that by the end of day on 12<sup>th</sup> November he would send out an updated document taking into account the comments made this evening and then everyone would be given three weeks to respond before the next meeting.

Gordon Robertson advised that he would create a design document and forward a copy of this before the next meeting.

## **AOCB**

The next meeting will take place on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November which will be chaired by Kevin Lang.