

Minutes of the 213th EACC Meeting held on Monday 10th November 2025

At The Novotel, Hermiston Gait – Edinburgh

Present Robert Carr (Chair)
Gordon Dewar (CEO EAL)
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
Cllr Kevin Lang City of Edinburgh Council
Cllr Tony Boyle West Lothian Council (For Tom Conn)
Mike Tibbert General Manager Europe, Global Marine Travel, SPAA
Agnes Rothney Kirkliston Council
Carolyn Flynn Police Scotland
Gordon Mina Cramond & Barnton Community Council
David Dunphy Frequent Flyer Representative
Clare Johnston Passenger PRM Representative
Jimmy Martin ABTA
Elspeth Gray Ratho & District Community Council

Apologies Blake Cushnie (EANAB)
Cllr Carol Hamilton Scottish Borders Council
Carrie Binnie Unite
Cllr Colin Cassidy Midlothian Council
Cllr John McMillan East Lothian Council
James Birch AOG
Rachael Murphy Sestran
Emma Reid Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce
Stephen Percy-Robb Fife Chamber of Commerce
Donald Spencer Consumers Representative

1. Welcome

Robert Carr welcomed all members attending as well as two observers. Robert Carr recorded thanks to Donald Spencer for taking the minutes at the August meeting

2. The Minutes of the previous meeting

The draft Minutes of the meeting on 4th August were discussed. Gordon Mina asked for some amendments to these draft Minutes and Robert Carr invited him to forward these to Janice Hogarth to be included in the finalised minutes.

3. Other matters arising from the Minutes

Other matters arising from the Minutes were on the Agenda for 11th November.

4. Chief Executive's Report (EAL)

Traffic Figures

Gordon Dewar started his report by commenting that the last quarter had seen 8.5% growth with continued good figures for September & October. It had also been a good period of growth for tourism across Scotland.

Larger aircraft with higher load factors were creating a slight flatlining in the number of movements including a modest reduction of domestic flights but it was noted that there was a higher proportion of movements in daytime hours and a reduction in evening hours.

Capital Investment

Gordon Dewar spoke about the extension of the South East pier which would add 8 new gates. He added that the runway resurfacing was continuing with night closures scheduled but of course this was all weather dependant.

The East access road project had restarted with the lodging of a planning application and a response from the Council was expected in the coming months.

Community Investment

The partnership with Edinburgh Children's Hospital Charity (EHC) was coming to an end and Gordon Robertson advised that a new partner would be chosen by the staff in December from the 5 remaining shortlisted local charities.

Surface Access

Gordon Robertson advised the meeting that in Quarter 3 the public transport market share had been 38%. He added that Stagecoach had now launched their electric fleet of buses.

There was also discussion on taxis and it was noted that passengers travelling by uber had to be dropped at the car park

Aircraft Noise

The Noise Action Plan had been approved and a noise insulation scheme at Crammond had been introduced.

There was a planning application awaiting approval for a new fixed monitor at Craigiehall and it was hoped that there would be news by the end of the month so that a plan could be created based on noise contours.

The report for the monitor at Dalgety Bay was due out shortly and had been delayed to ensure that there was a good level of data for review.

The varying definitions of night time flights were discussed and consistency was obviously desirable. EAL would produce the data as wished by the EACC.

There would be further discussion at UKACCs and EANAB

Route Development

There was continued good news with additional routes/extension of seasons for routes with notably Air Canada and American Airlines in the transatlantic arena. Icelandair had returned to operate from Edinburgh as well as Luxair and Norwegian flights were growing.

Fleet development had been a previous drawback with some airlines such as United and the Boeing 757 replacement but generally transatlantic traffic was doing very well indeed.

Kevin Lang asked about cancellations and reductions on some routes and it was noted that the second United Newark flight was not continuing with the aircraft being redeployed.

Summer Review

With 12.6 million passengers to date Edinburgh Airport was currently viewed as one of the busiest airports in the UK and was showing an 88% satisfaction rate and a net pr score of 46.

On time performance had been between 62 and 68%.

Check in was working well with 42% of passengers using self-service and the new scanners meant that security and timing through security was really efficient.

Passenger complaints were mainly centred on queuing

For departures - queuing for the boarding gates (which the airlines were responsible for especially low-cost carriers)

For arrivals – which was the main area of annoyance, which was for passengers queuing in the arrivals hall relating to passport control but also long delays in waiting for luggage.

Assisted travel figures had shown an increase of 22% for PRM passengers but it was commented that the previous problems relating to toilets were now seeing improvement.

With relation to assisted travel there were comments relating to wheelchair use as to when it is required at check in and clarity on what passengers should do on arrival at the airport.

UK Border Force had been a problem over the summer with them cutting staff and EAL were looking at solutions to transform this area although 90% of passengers processed were contactless, which was seen as much higher than other countries. There was discussion on a separate queue for PRM passengers so that they did not get caught up in the queue where passengers were being processed by Border Force

It was agreed that the area was not designed for passengers to be in for up to one hour and that it was not a great impression for passengers arriving in to the UK. There were suggestions for a new domestic arrivals route and also better signage.

Passenger Satisfaction Analysis

The average score in Quarter 3 had been 76% with the main area of concern for passengers relating to journey preparation.

5. CAA Environmental Information Forum Update

Adam Cumming had attended a meeting on the 4th November which he felt was really an information dump. Details of the meeting would be issued shortly and Janice Hogarth will circulate these to the committee.

Action Point: Janice Hogarth to circulate meeting notes from CAA environmental Forum

The main items discussed related to the CAP1616 Air Space change consultation and the latest update on the consultation which would include Spaceports. The meeting also covered items relating to the next environmental review which would be in 4 – 6 months, Noise Action Plans and also the recent noise attitude survey. There had also been a presentation on the DfT recent consultation on adapting the UK transport system to the impacts of climate change and the resulting risks to aviation. Adam Cumming commented that there had been good co-ordinated information from the CAA.

6. Air Space Change Stakeholders Group Update.

Janice Hogarth reported on the latest Air Space Stakeholders Group which had recently met and had engaged with the team in helping with the creation of the document that had gone out with the consultation by trying to make the accompanying document more user friendly and easier to understand.

The consultation is now live.

Members of the meeting were encouraged to get as many people as possible to feed in to the consultation which would close in January and the response would be published in May.

7. Noise Action Plan Update

Gordon Robertson commented that June McClung and Simon Rhodes should be commended for their work on the NAP project. He added that there is now a need to track aircraft movements against the plan. There was a need to look at insulation both previously and now.

Gordon Robertson was asked about night time charges by Gordon Mina and what level of funds had been levied and paid?

Kevin Lang asked for a definitive list of properties and whether this could be forwarded?

EAL would deal with these items outwith the meeting.

8. EANAB Update.

Blake was unable to attend but had sent a report which was read by Gordon Robertson which commented on the fact that EANAB Aviation Analysis & Noise subgroup have been

working collaboratively with the airport to review the proposed designs and also to help develop the ACP.

Additionally, EANAB members were selected to join the Air Space Stakeholders Group to review the consultation material and by all accounts, their contribution was considered very valuable. The many challenges faced by all parties were recognised.

Blake had commented that while most of the recent focus has been on the ACP, EANAB has also issued its latest annual report and newsletter is available for review at www.eanab.org.uk

There was a request for night movement information.

9. UKACC Update.

The weekly updates from the UKACC continue to be circulated to members by Janice Hogarth and are of great interest and very informative.

The UKACC Annual meeting will take place in Bristol on the 27th & 28th November. Robert Carr and Janice Hogarth would attend and report back at the next meeting in February. The agenda was looking very good with presentations from the DfT and also the CAA.

Discussion would cover a number of items and we had already submitted some suggestions into the agenda. Subjects to be covered included Air Space Change, passenger experience, consistency of night timings, Border Control, SAF and the relevance of Consultative committees

10. Review Of Rolling Action

All points covered under matters arising.

11. AOCB

Robert Carr suggested that it would be good if it was possible to try and arrange a visit to the control tower in the new year.

Robert also commented that there was a vacancy on the committee and this should be reviewed in line with consideration of who would be relevant.

The dates for 2026 meeting would be as follows

Monday 9th February

Monday 11th May

Monday 10th August

Monday 9th November

There was no other business and the meeting was closed at 12.20 with the next meeting scheduled to take place on Monday 9th February at 10.30am at The Novotel.