

**Minutes of the meeting of the London City Airport Consultative Committee  
held on 8 June 2023, at the Good Hotel, London**

**Present:** Duncan Ayles (LBN), David Conroy (local resident), Cllr Andy Dourmough (LB of Bexley) Cllr Ann Easter (LBN), George Masters (Secretary), Stephen Pick (London Chamber), John Stewart (HACAN East), Tim Walker (Forest Hill Society) Glynis Webb (Vice-Chair).

**In attendance from LCY:** Robert Sinclair, Francesca Pacifico, Lucy Craven, Tim Halley, Liam McKay, Aaron Uthman.

**Apologies:** Duncan Alexander (Chair), Stephen Jones (London Chamber), Cllr Sarah Ruiz (LBN), Cllr James Asser (LBN), John Shaw (Passenger Rep)

**1. Minutes of the meeting on 9 March 2023**

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

**2. CEO Update**

The Chair (Glynis Webb) invited Robert Sinclair (RS) to update the Committee.

RS stated that the airport was running at 70% of pre-pandemic levels in terms of numbers of passengers, and the split between business and leisure was returning to pre-pandemic levels. RS stated that the airport was offering 33 routes this summer and was well resourced for the season. RS stated that the airport continued to perform well, with the airport continuing to be the top airport in London with regard to on time performance.

RS updated the Committee on recent community work, including the Women in Aviation Programme, community events for Eid and the Coronation, and the airport's support to community food banks.

Members thanked the airport for its support to food banks. Members also gave positive feedback on recent experiences getting flights from the airport.

RS thanked members for their feedback and stated that the departure lounge works would be completed by the end of the calendar year.

**3. Update on the airport's application to change its existing planning permission**

The Chair invited Tim Halley (TM) to update on the airport's planning application which had been submitted to London Borough of Newham Council (LBN).

TH stated that LBN had scheduled the Strategic Planning Committee where the airport's planning application would be considered for the 10th July. TH stated that interested parties can apply to speak during the session. The LBN Officer's report on the application would be available on the LBN website 5 working days before the session.

The link below includes details of how people can register to speak, see the officer's report and attend the session.

<https://mgov.newham.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=1224>

TH advised that the airport's annual planning performance report would be published before the end of June. The report will be distributed to members of the committee. TH stated that this was the 6th consecutive year where there were no compliance issues.

TH stated that post the pandemic, sustainable travel modes were returning. The airport continued to be the best performing airport for passengers using sustainable transport. The airport's focus this year is improving the use of sustainable transport by airport staff.

#### **4. UKACC**

The Chair stated that this item would be taken at the next meeting of the LCACC.

#### **5. Airport Reports**

The Chair advised that the Airport reports would not be read out in full during the meeting, rather they will be taken as read. The Chair would simply open the floor to questions.

- **Airspace and Environment**

The Chair invited Francesca Pacifico to update on Airspace and Environment. FP updated members on the airport's Noise Action Plan, stating that the updated plan would cover 2024-2028. FP stated that the airport was seeking feedback on the draft report and were therefore running drop in sessions in the community as well as having an online feedback form. FP stated that the plan would be submitted to DEFRA at the end of the year.

Members asked about the references to low flying in the report, and asked the airport to confirm what metrics they were using to define low flying.

**Action:** LCY to confirm the metric used.

Members asked about the consultation exercise and why there were not more than three drop-in sessions in the community. TH stated that though the consultation on both the Noise Action Plan and the planning application had been advertised in all local boroughs the airport had decided to hold three sessions where historically in person sessions had been popular.

Members asked about the possibility of using webinars noting that they had worked for other organisations.

TH stated that the airport and LBN had consulted widely on the planning application and that the results of the airport's consultation was available in the statement of community involvement which was submitted with the airport's planning application.

- **Community**

Aaron Uthman (AU) advised that the sub-committee on community was seeking new members. AU stated that it was an important time for community issues which require input from interested parties. Likewise TH advised that attendance at the Airport Transport Forum had fallen following the pandemic, therefore he was also looking for increased attendance.

The Chair advised that this was the case for the wider LCACC meetings as well. The Chair advised that the airport, Chair and Secretary would be working closely to improve membership ahead of the next meeting.

**Action:** Chair/LCY/Secretary to update on work on membership at the next meeting

**Action:** dates of the sub-committee meetings to be distributed with the minutes.

- **Planning**

Members asked whether the Sound Insulation was continuing. TH advised that it was.

- **Airport Transport Forum**

TH reiterated that the ATF needed increased attendance and that at the next meeting (15th June) there would be a focus on membership.

## **6. AOB**

Members asked about the difference in noise between older and new aircraft, and what mobile noise measurements had been taken in the local area to compare noise levels. Members noted that a citizen research study published by HACAN East<sup>1</sup> had concluded there is no noticeable difference between old and new aircraft in flight. Members asked whether noise readings detailing the difference of the aircraft in level flight could be taken in SE London, as at present the airport's noise measurements on the website did not include measurements from new aircraft.

TH advised that the airport's noise consultants had conducted a technical review of the research. TH advised that the airport would not be submitting further noise data in addition to what was already submitted as part of the planning application.

RS stated that it was important to note that the aircraft were in fact quieter, and were significantly so on departure. In addition, the use of newer aircraft allowed the airport to fly more passengers without having to increase the number of flights. The newer aircraft were also significantly better performing with regard to emissions – with newer aircraft being 30% more efficient.

The Chair stated that this detailed conversation should be raised at sub-committee level, including whether the airport should consider a further noise measurement study over SE London.

## **7. Next meetings**

The Committee will next meet in 2023 on the following dates:

- 4.00pm, 14 September 2023
- 4.00pm, 7 December 2023

The Secretary will send out placeholders for the meetings in the coming weeks. Reminders will be sent closer to the meetings. Location will be the Good Hotel.

Should members wish to be added to the sub-committee distribution list please contact the Secretary.

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<sup>1</sup> [London+City+Airport+Noise+Citizen+Research+Study+Ver+5+Feb+2023.pdf \(squarespace.com\)](#)