

Noise and Airspace Community Forum (NACF)

Summary Minutes (24 Sep 2025, 13:00-16:00, London Heathrow Marriott)

These summary minutes are not intended to be a verbatim record of the meeting, but a summary of the topics and views of forum members and a note of any actions agreed. They should be read in conjunction with a copy of the presentations given at the meeting.

Confirmed attendees

Name	Borough / Organisation
Andreas Lambrianou	Chair
Cllr Wendy Matthews	Buckinghamshire Council
John Burton	CAA
Stuart Lindsey *	CAA
Mark Izatt	CISHA
Tracey Waltho	CISHA
Tim May *	DfT
Margaret Majumdar *	Ealing Aircraft Noise Action Group
Rob Buick	Englefield Green Action Group
Nigel Davies	Englefield Green Action Group
Paul Beckford	HACAN
Christine Taylor	Harmondsworth and Sipson Residents Association
Armelle Thomas	Harmondsworth and Sipson Residents Association
Becky Coffin	Heathrow
Rick Norman	Heathrow
Lisa Forshew	Heathrow
James Mackenzie	Heathrow
Jonathan Pam	Heathrow
Pierre Sohier	Heathrow
Richard West	Heathrow
Michael Thornton *	Heathrow Strategic Planning Group
Surinderpal Suri *	London Borough of Ealing
Christian Hughes *	Longford Residents Association
Deborah Petty	Molesey Residents Association
Peter Willan *	Richmond Heathrow Campaign
Robert Tudway	Richmond Heathrow Campaign
Cllr Mark Howard	Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead
Cllr Michele Gibson	Spelthorne Borough Council
Kathleen Croft	Stanwell Moor Community Watch
Maryann Morgan	Sunninghill & Ascot Parish Council
Sue Janota *	Surrey County Council
Cllr Nirmal Kang	Surrey Heath Borough Council
Dave Gilbert	Teddington Action Group
Stephen Clark *	Teddington Action Group
Ben Fenech	UKHSA

Apologies

Tim Walker (Forest Hill Society), Bridget Bell (Plane Hell Action), Spencer Norton (British Airways), Darren Rhodes (CAA), David Matthews (NATS).

Action Log

Date and paragraph	Description	Comments	Resolution date	Status
26/03/2025 para 1.6 / 23/07/2025 para 1.4	DfT to respond to Frontier Economics scoping study	Update provided at forum	24/09/2025	Closed
23/07/2025 para 7.11	Provide deployment dates of noise monitors	Data circulated to members	16/09/2025	Closed

Summary of previous open or recently closed actions

1 Welcome and Introduction

- 1.1 Andreas Lambrianou (AL) welcomed members to the forum and noted apologies for absence. He welcomed Kathleen Croft from Stanwell Moor Community Watch, replacing Stanwell Moor Residents Association due to lack of regular attendance to ensure local perspectives continue to be heard.
- 1.2 Deborah Petty (DP) asked why a substitute representative for Plane Hell Action could not attend online and complained about the late communication and poor handling of the matter. AL explained that rather than late communication, the team had been in communication with Plane Hell Action for two months, and had requested confirmation of membership and nomination in line with the Terms of Reference which was not forthcoming. He also restated current policy to allow alternative member attendance in person, but to restrict online access for nominated members only. He added that members of the public were also permitted as observers to NACF meetings.
- 1.3 AL announced that the previous summary minutes had been finalised and summarised the previous actions as set out in the Action Log above.

2 Data dashboard

- 2.1 Pierre Sohier (PS) presented Heathrow's Operations Dashboard for August 2025. The dashboard is available on Heathrow's website [here](#).
- 2.2 Christian Hughes (CH) asked for the number of departures from runway 09L to be added to the dashboard. PS advised that the dashboard had been designed in conjunction with members to provide a good balance of information, so it would be better to provide supplementary figures separately. The data was provided after the meeting.
- 2.3 PS advised that in August there were 17 nights without late running flights (between 23:30-04:30) with a total of 31 late runners, of which 10 were dispensed. Cllr Wendy Matthews (WM) asked the reason for the non-dispensed flights. PS explained these would typically be due to technical or passenger issues outside the dispensation criteria.
- 2.4 Cllr Mark Howard (MH) asked what was being done to reduce the number of late runners. AL advised that Heathrow's operations team worked with airlines to reduce late runners. A detailed session had covered this before, but he would consider it again for a future meeting to provide assurance the process was robust. **ACTION AL**

3 Deep Dive: Health evidence and policy

- 3.1 Ben Fenech (BF) gave a presentation on health evidence, addressing the rationale for conducting research into noise and health, the identification of relevant risk factors, the classification and robustness of evidence, variations across different transport sources, and the application of such insights at the population level.
- 3.2 Tim May (TM) discussed how health evidence feeds into policy, explaining how the Intergovernmental Group on the Costs and Benefits of Noise (IGCB(N)) helps develop government's understanding of the costs and benefits of reducing noise pollution as well as making recommendations on the noise sources and health impacts that should be included in policy appraisal.
- 3.3 TM addressed Frontier Economics' recommendations to consider reviewing Transport Analysis Guidance (TAG) for cognitive effects on children and sleep disturbance. He noted that both were included in the IGCB(N) process, and new evidence for the latter would also come from the Aviation Noise Attitudes Survey (ANAS) and Aircraft Night Noise Effects (ANNE) studies, both due to be published in 2026. He noted that the economic benefits of night flights were also taken into account in policy decisions, and it was ultimately the responsibility of politicians to assess and make decisions on such matters.
- 3.4 DP asked if boost samples had been taken under flight paths using extant health data. BF confirmed that a study looking at hospital admissions had been published in 2013, but the study could only be undertaken at postcode level with no access to individual confounders such as smoking, so it had its limitations.
- 3.5 Surinderpal Suri (SS) asked how local authorities could address compounded health impacts when developing residences close to flight paths. BF acknowledged that new developments posed a challenge. He noted that British Standard BS 8233 "Sound insulation and noise reduction for buildings" was currently under review and the consultation had received 1,519 comments.
- 3.6 Cllr Michele Gibson (MG) advised that Spelthorne was affected by noise and air pollution from multiple sources including motorways, local roads, the airport and an eco-park. She asked if there had been any studies showing the holistic effect of noise and air pollution. BF advised that road traffic studies showed the risk from very high levels of noise and air pollution was higher than adding them together but was not aware of aircraft studies.
- 3.7 Armelle Thomas (AT) said health was a human right and asked why the Government would allow a third runway with so many unknowns. BF explained that health was determined by many factors, not just noise. TM added that approval for a third runway was a long and detailed process which would include an appraisal of health impacts as part of the Development Consent Order (DCO).
- 3.8** Dave Gilbert (DG) noted that government policy uses a Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Level (LOAEL) to assess the adverse impact of daytime aircraft noise in the UK, based on evidence from the Survey of Noise Attitudes (SoNA) 2014. He asked if WHO recommendations should be used instead. BF explained that the 51dB LOAEL was presented for airspace change and was not solely based on SoNA. TM added that the concepts were set out in Defra's Noise Policy Statement for England (NPSE), 2010. He reiterated that ANAS would be published next year so that may provide a basis for looking at that again.

4 UK Airspace Design Service (UKADS) Update

- 4.1 Stuart Lindsey (SL) gave an update on the introduction of a UK Airspace Design Service (UKADS). He advised that UKADS would commence late 2025 / early 2026 and that all details related to UKADS were available on a new webpage [here](#). He explained that five consultations would be launched between October and December, covering the Airspace Change Process (CAP 1616), UKADS, the UK Airspace Coordination Service (UKACS) and proposed changes to Air Navigation Guidance (ANG) and Air Navigation Directions (AND), with publication expected in April 2026. He advised that the CAP 1616 consultation would launch tomorrow for 12 weeks ([CAP 3157](#)), accompanied by the information paper "Modernising the way we do airspace design: information relevant to the CAA autumn 2025 consultations concerning airspace design" ([CAP 3156](#)).
- 4.2 DP said it would take communities a lot of time to respond to the consultations and asked how long they would be open. SL explained that those involving community issues tended to be 12 weeks, while economic consultations tended to be 4-6 weeks. DP asked what was happening in the background on Airspace Modernisation. SL said he could not speak for airports but expected work would be ongoing at airports until March 2026.
- 4.3 Paul Beckford (PB) asked how the consultations would fit with the Government's review of the Airports National Policy Statement (ANPS), as he understood the ANPS had primacy as it was voted on by parliament. SL agreed that the ANPS was the highest-level policy but noted that AND was also law. He added this was one of the reasons a draft CAP 1616 has not been offered at this stage, as they have tried to propose a process that is agnostic to the ANPS and AND.

5 Community Engagement Review - Overview and Next Steps

- 5.1 Jonathan Pam (JP) gave an overview of plans to review and benchmark community engagement approaches from other major industries to identify best practice relevant to Heathrow. He explained that the review had considered feedback provided to the NACF and CISHA and thanked members for their insights. He noted that the NACF would continue but would revert to quarterly meetings. A final report was expected in Q2 2027.
- 5.2 DP highlighted the importance of senior Heathrow colleagues attending the forum, noting the absence of Jennifer Sykes (JS). Becky Coffin (BC) explained that JS was on leave, with Lisa Forshew (LF) attending in her place. DP also stressed the need to use technology to facilitate the participation of wider representation of younger, more diverse potential community representatives, noting that any requirement to take half-day unpaid leave to attend meetings would be a major deterrent.
- 5.3 Cllr Michele Gibson (MG) highlighted the proposal to pilot with local communities and reach underrepresented groups, asking how that would work and how those groups would be found. JP replied that the solution would come from the external suppliers with experience of best practice in this area.
- 5.4 JP highlighted a lack of forum representation from more deprived areas such as Slough and Hounslow. AT noted that the three villages she represented were deprived of health services. CH added that Longford had the least respite and lacked noise monitoring.
- 5.5 AL reminded CH about the process for requesting community noise monitors, noting that Longford had not been selected for 2025, but another request could be submitted. JM advised he had spoken to CH about monitoring as part of the ground noise management plan. Cllr Nirmal Kang (NK) asked how many monitors could be deployed as Surrey

Heath would also like one. AL advised that monitors were discussed annually and would be covered at a future forum.

- 5.6 WM reminded members that the forum's Terms of Reference required members to represent the views of their members, not just themselves. Margaret Majumdar (MM) expressed a preference for holding meetings on airport premises rather than in hotels.
- 5.7 Christine Taylor (CT) recognised the benefit of using external suppliers to review engagement to a point but stressed the importance of local knowledge over the views of transient landlords and tenants. MI explained that an external supplier would bring expertise and fresh perspective, with both the NACF Chair and CISHA having input to the selection process.
- 5.8 SS asked if DfT could adapt the polluter pays principle to cover health screening for populations impacted by noise and air pollution. AL agreed to pass that request onto the DfT. **ACTION AL**

6 Community Feedback

- 6.1 DP advised that some community members met before each forum and encouraged other groups to join them. She highlighted the stress on local villages awaiting a decision on a third runway and reiterated her earlier question about Airspace Modernisation. She expressed concern about data veracity, noting that airspace should be modernised using the best possible data. DG added his concern about the potential under-reporting of noise. AL noted the difference of opinion between DG and CAA and advised that for detailed points DG should contact CAA.
- 6.2 LF referred to [CAP3129](#), the onboarding process for the UKADS provider for the London Terminal Manoeuvring Area (TMA) region. She advised that Heathrow expected to provide a handover to UKADS before March 2026 but needed more clarity on what was required as well as a decision from the Government on Heathrow's expansion proposal. She added that once a firm plan was in place it would be shared with forum members.
- 6.3 AT sought clarification on property purchases ahead of the Government's decision on a third runway. BC explained that Heathrow's proposals included a property compensation offer in line with the ANPS. She added that to meet the Government's timetable, Heathrow had submitted a request to CAA to increase the current capital cap to support preparations for potential expansion, with the option of exploring the launch of a property bond scheme, as this could offer residents the opportunity to secure certainty sooner. However, no decision has been made. She advised that the issue had been discussed at the Local Community Forum (LCF) and invited members to contact the Community Relations Line via email at communityrelations@heathrow.com or by phone at 0800 307 7996 for more information.
- 6.4 Tracey Waltho (TW) noted that both Heathrow and Arora Group had presented their expansion proposals to CISHA.

Date of next meeting

Wednesday 26 November (13:00-16:00).