

Heathrow Leadership Group

Meeting 4

Minutes of a meeting held in the Board Room, The Compass Centre, Nelson road, Hounslow, Middlesex, TW6 2GW.

On Monday 30th January 2012 at 10:00

Present:

Richard Deakin	NATS
Andrew Haines	CAA
Steve Ridgway	Virgin Atlantic Airways
Willie Walsh	International Airlines Group
Chris Bosworth	ACL (for item 2)
Rob Whiteman	UKBA (by phone for item 5)
Matthews Coats	UKBA (by phone for item 5)
Colin Matthews (Chair)	BAA Airports Ltd
Tina Temby (admin)	BAA Airports Ltd

Apologies: Wolfgang Prock-Schauer British Midland

The meeting commenced at 10:05

The minutes of the Heathrow Leadership Group meeting indicate the topics discussed and show the direction of debate, the general conclusions and actions. The minutes are not intended to be a detailed record.

Item no.	Subject		
1.	Minutes of previous meetings approved		
2.	<p>Short term resilience issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The growing number of A380 movements poses significant infrastructure issues for Heathrow. A BAA workstream will continue to evaluate and build the conclusions into the capital investment plan for the next regulatory period. b. The current "operational freedoms" trial offers an important means of exploring what steps can be effective in making Heathrow less susceptible to disruption. c. ACL and NATS are working closely to monitor any bottlenecks in the airspace around the South East of England which arise from additional flights during the London 2012 games. In addition, contingency plans are required in the event of unexpected major capacity reductions. NATS and CAA are reviewing how to construct such contingency plans in the best interests of passengers. d. The CAA provided an update on the evolution of "safety cases" in the event of future volcanic ash episodes. 		

3.	<p>Mid term passenger priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The group discussed key elements of the upcoming regulatory settlement. The debate between airport and airlines regarding investment, cost and passenger service measures for 2014 to 2019 requires resource and effort from the Heathrow community this year to avoid a major challenge in the days leading up to the regulatory settlement. b. The proposed EU “airports package” is calling for liberalisation of the market for ground handling and licensing of ground handlers. The former is unlikely to concern the UK where the market has already been liberalised. However, ground handler licensing may be unwelcome. 		
4.	<p>Long term issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Heathrow’s noise footprint has been significantly reduced in recent years. In collaboration with airlines, BAA will carry out fresh work and analysis in 2012 to provide a more comprehensive and readily understood explanation of the complicated issues concerning aircraft noise. b. There are very large difficulties associated with a new airport in the Thames Estuary, and the group anticipates that several other options will be considered in due course. Renewed public debate is healthy provided no option is ruled out until all the considerations are explored. 		
5.	<p>UKBA</p> <p>The group discussed the additional resources and steps required to manage the London 2012 games effectively. The requirement for the border to be safe is a given, as is safety for all operators at Heathrow. In addition, passengers expect good service in every aspect of the Heathrow experience, including immigration.</p>		
6.	<p>Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting</p> <p>Monday 30th April 2012, 10:00-12:00 Board Room - West BAA Compass Centre</p>		
7.	<p>There being no further business the meeting closed.</p>		

Colin Matthews
Chairman