



*HEATHROW COMMUNITY NOISE FORUM  
AIRSPACE UPDATE*

*24 JULY 2019*

**Heathrow**  
Building for the future

## *HEATHROW'S AIRSPACE CHANGE PROGRAMME*

- Heathrow is currently undertaking Airspace Change Proposals (ACP) for the following:
  - Expansion
  - Independent Parallel Approaches (IPA)
  - Slightly Steeper Approaches
  - Compton – easterly operations departure route
- Each of the ACPs are at different stages within the CAA's airspace change process.
- The following slides give an overview of the key engagement and consultation activities that have already been undertaken for each ACP, and the planned next steps.

# HEATHROW'S ACPS: OVERVIEW

## Expansion

- Redesign of all flight paths for an expanded Heathrow.
- New flight paths will be based on modern navigation technology so that we modernise our airspace at the same time as we expand the airport.
- Major changes to flight paths will also be taking place across the UK's airspace as the Government implements its Airspace Modernisation Strategy.

## Slightly Steeper Approaches (SSA)

- Increase in the approach path of some arriving aircraft from 3 degrees to 3.2 degrees.
- Two trials completed to investigate the impact of SSA.
- The trial results demonstrated that a small noise benefit can be provided with no negative environmental or operational impacts.

## Independent Parallel Approaches (IPA)

- A short-term change to the way that some arrivals (approx. 10%) land at Heathrow.
- Because Heathrow operates at 98% of its capacity, any disruption or delays during the day can have a knock-on effect to the punctuality of flights, resulting in delays.
- IPA is a way of making Heathrow's overall arrivals process more efficient.

## Compton

- A short-term change to the design of the Compton departure route on easterly operations.
- Over time, it has become challenging to manage because of its proximity to one of Heathrow's holding stacks.
- This has led to a much lower percentage of 'track keeping' on this route compared with Heathrow's other departure routes.

# CAA'S AIRSPACE CHANGE PROCESS

**Engagement** to establish design principles



**Engagement** on process we have undertaken to establish our long list of flight path options



Statutory **consultation** on preferred flight path options



All separate airspace changes need to go through the CAA's multiple-step process. This requires stakeholder engagement and consultation at different stages.



# *HEATHROW'S CURRENT AIRSPACE CHANGE PROGRAMME: INDICATIVE ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION TIMELINE*

	Expansion	IPA	Slightly Steeper Approaches	Compton
Design principles	Consultation Jan-Mar 2018 ✓	Engagement Oct 2018 ✓	Engagement June 2019 ✓	Engagement July/Aug 2019
Design envelopes	Consultation Jan-Mar 2019 ✓	Consultation Jan-Mar 2019 ✓	N/A	Engagement Q4 2019
Long list of flight path options	Engagement Q3/Q4 2019	Engagement May 2019 ✓	Engagement Q4 2019	Engagement 2020
Flight path options consultation	Consultation 2022	Consultation 2020	Consultation 2020	Consultation 2021
Implementation	2024-26	2022	2021	2022

*This shows key milestones – there will be other ongoing engagement activities throughout each ACP*

# HEATHROW'S ACPS: NEXT STEPS FOR 2019

## Expansion

- Stakeholder engagement workshops on long list of flight paths options to be held later this year (same process as previously carried out for IPA).

## Independent Parallel Approaches (IPA)

- Heathrow to submit Stage 2 (Options development and Options appraisal) to the CAA later this year.

## Slightly Steeper Approaches (SSA)

- Heathrow to submit proposed design principles to CAA in August 2019.
- Further stakeholder engagement to take place later this year.

## Compton

- First round of design principle workshops completed this month – follow up workshops in August. Proposed design principles to be submitted to CAA, followed by further engagement on a Compton design envelope later this year.

- *We will also begin the airspace change process for the introduction of runway alternation on easterly operations later this year (separate to the required taxiway works which is be pursued through the DCO for expansion)*