

GATCOM 20 October 2022

KEY MESSAGES AND OUTCOMES FROM MEETING

The agenda and papers considered at the meeting are available on GATCOM's website at <http://www.gatcom.org.uk/agendas-and-minutes/>

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

- The Environment and Amenity Group representative asked for it to be noted that they did not support the GATCOM response to the second consultation on the Northern Runway proposals.

REPORTS AND KEY MESSAGES FROM SUB-GROUP & OTHER MEETINGS

GATCOM Steering Group – Chairman's Report

- The GATCOM [response to the Contracts and Commitments Extension consultation](#) has now been submitted. It was discussed at both Steering Group and PAG and then agreed by the Chairman, Vice Chairman and the Chair of PAG.
- The GATCOM Away Day took place at Tilgate Park in Crawley on 6 October. The day was fairly well attended, and some good discussions were had. We have also had some positive feedback from those who attended. The Secretariat is pulling together all the issues raised, and actions and a full report will come to the next GATCOM in January.
- The Environment and Amenity Group representative raised concern about the Noise Envelope Group (NEG) Process. It was agreed that a full note on this from GACC would be circulated to all GATCOM Members, with comments from GAL and then it would be discussed at the next GATCOM meeting.

Passenger Advisory Group (PAG) – Chair's Report

- PAG continue to be extremely busy, and all the working groups are fully engaged with GAL and as always PAG thank GAL for that. A special thank you to both Stewart Wingate and Jim Butler for attending the last PAG meeting. Their time was much appreciated.
- PAG submitted their part of the response to the Contracts and Commitments extension consultation. There is a potential conflict between passengers who will want to see low cost, frequent flights and local community groups but actually as we know a high proportion of the passenger demographic comes from the Southeast and so many passengers would have both sets of interests at heart.
- PAG continue to keep a close eye on inbound baggage, cleanliness and PRM service delivery.
- Two PAG Members recently attended the Gatwick Transport Forum reporting back the good progress on the new Gatwick Airport station due to open by Q2 2023. Also, the Airport Surface Access Strategy majors on meeting the airports target of getting the majority of future passengers and staff to travel to and from the airport either by means of train, bus, walking and cycling.
- GATCOM agreed the recommendations:
 - (1) That GATCOM supports GAL's initiatives put in place to reward good performance and to help drive up service standards for passengers;
 - (2) That GATCOM shares PAG's concern about the lack of resource many airport companies continue to face which has impacted on the passenger experience at Gatwick; and

(3) That GATCOM notes the work of PAG and its engagement with GAL as the 'critical friend' and support its role as advocate on behalf of passengers.

Noise and Track Monitoring Advisory Group (NATMAG)

- NATMAG's key messages to GATCOM were noted:
 - There have been no changes or relaxations by the Secretary of State to the current night flight restrictions at the designated airports.
 - Ricardo update on their research investigation into the impact of odour at Gatwick Airport. Modelling suggested Horley would be most likely affected by odour, while volatile organic compound measurement near the fuel farm indicated the fuel farm, cargo area and operations associated with the North Terminal as likely sources of odour.
- Noise complaints continue to be monitored, particularly from areas where the greatest number of complaints are being received.
- It was agreed that more detail would be included in the next report regarding the Airline Noise Performance Table. This could include how many airlines are engaged with, when and what metric.
- The next NaTMAG meeting would look into the reasons for the dispensations for night flights.

Noise Management Board (NMB) – Executive Board (NEX) Report

- The NMB Co-Chairs' report was noted.
- The Low Noise Arrival Metric (LNAM) had been delayed and there is no target date at present. This is of concern to the NMB.
- A Departure Noise Limits and Fines workshop, engaging Community views, was expected to take place soon.

JET ZERO STRATEGY

GATCOM received a presentation from The Department of Transport (DfT) on the new government [Jet Zero Strategy](#). Tim Johnson from Aviation Environment Federation was also in attendance to provide his views on the Strategy. Key points to note are:

- The 'Jet Zero' Strategy sets out the Government's approach for achieving net zero aviation by 2050, with an earlier 2040 target for domestic flights and for airports in England to be zero emission by the same year.
- The target to make airports zero emission by 2040 only applies to ground emissions from airport sources like heating and lighting requirements and on-site vehicles.
- The Government has set a trajectory for aviation emissions to fall between now and 2050, with 2019 being regarded as the peak year.
- A five-year delivery plan has also been published with a commitment to monitor the trajectory annually and to review and update the overall approach every five years.
- The government is planning to publish a Call for Evidence on proposals to provide consumers with environmental information at the point of booking a flight.
- The Jet Zero Strategy is supported by a range of funding including £165m to support the development of sustainable aviation fuel plants in the UK and £685m is going to be provided through the Aerospace Technology Institute to support aerospace R&D over the next three years.
- The Jet Zero Council was launched two years ago. The last meeting took place alongside the launch of the Strategy and a new Zero Emission Flight Delivery

Group has been established which complements the existing Delivery Group and subgroups on SAF.

- AEF welcomed the setting of targets and a downward emissions trajectory, together with a framework for monitoring and reviewing progress, but it had concerns about the Strategy's reliance on optimistic assumptions regarding the likely uptake of SAF and technology to meet the net zero target. Instead, AEF believes a cautious approach to growth is essential until emissions reductions at scale can be proven.

Actions:

- For DfT to provide more detail on the SAF feedstocks and where it will come from.
- Secretariat to follow up with Sustainable Aviation, as they were unable to attend, and ask if they wish to add anything to the key messages to be circulated to members

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The Chief Executive Officer's commentary on activity and performance of Gatwick over the previous quarter was discussed. The key points to note are:

- **Declared Capacity** for July and August had the desired outcome and provided stable operations over the summer period.
- **Service Levels** remain high with 93% of passengers getting through security in less than 10 minutes. In terms of punctuality aircraft have been delayed by approx. 7 to 8 minutes more than was the case in 2019. Over 96% of passengers have received their inbound baggage within 55 minutes. Special assistance provider Wilson James achieved all of the service standards in September which is typically the busiest month for special assistance.
- **Investment & Growth** – new long-haul routes have been announced by British Airways. JetBlue has also expanded its network from Gatwick. Delta Air Lines will return to Gatwick next year and Bamboo Airways will start two new routes in winter 2022.
- **Main Runway resurfacing project** –The works were completed with minimal disruption to local residents, the airport operation and the airline community adjusted some slot times to support the working window earlier in the project. The runway has now had its design life extended by approx. 7 years.
- **Community** – GAL have supported a number of community events over the summer period, including Horsham Children's Parade and Crawley Pride.

NORTHERN RUNWAY DCO - UPDATE

GAL provided an update on the DCO Process. The key points are:

- The Summer 2022 consultation on the updated highways improvements designs and other updates to the Northern Runway project closed on 27 July. Over 550 responses were received.
- Engagement with statutory stakeholders continues as GAL consider the consultation responses and further refine the DCO prior to submission.
- GAL hope to submit the DCO in the first quarter of 2023. As GAL finalise the documents, they hope to be able to give a more detailed timing for the submission.
- Once the DCO is submitted the timescales are then set out by PINS and can be found detailed on their [website](#)

GATWICK AIRPORT COMMUNITY TRUST - UPDATE

GATCOM received a [presentation](#) from GACT, an independent charity set up in 2001 that is wholly funded by GAL and provides grants to benefit local communities directly affected by airport operations. Trustees are nominated by local authorities and other groups including GATCOM. The presentation details examples of projects who have been granted funds over the last few years.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- The next meeting of GATCOM will take place on Thursday 26 January 2023 at 2.00 p.m. This meeting would be in person at Gatwick Airport.
- The next meeting of the GATCOM Steering Group will take place on Thursday 5 January 2023 at 10am virtually via MS Teams.
- The next meeting of PAG will take place on 15 December 2022.

Dates for future GATCOM meeting in 2023/24 were circulated shortly after the meeting and are detailed below:

GATCOM:

Thursday 27 April 2023 @2.00pm via MS Teams

Thursday 20 July 2023 @2.00pm In Person at Gatwick Airport

Thursday 2 November 2023 @10.00am via MS Teams

Thursday 25 January 2024 @2.00pm In Person at Gatwick Airport

GATCOM Steering Group

Thursday 6 April 2023 @2.00pm In person at Gatwick Airport

Wednesday 28 June 2023 @2.00pm via MS Teams

Thursday 12 October 2023 @2.00pm In Person at Gatwick Airport

Thursday 11 January 2024 @10:00am via MS Teams

PAG

Thursday 30 Mar 2023 @1:30pm

Friday 16 June 2023 @1.30pm

Thursday 28 September 2023 @1:30pm

Thursday 7 December 2023 @1.30pm

Monique Smart
Secretariat