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GATCOM 30 JANUARY 2014

KEY MESSAGES AND OUTCOMES FROM MEETING

The agenda and papers considered at the meeting are available on GATCOM's website at www.gatcom.org.uk

GATCOM STEERING GROUP – VICE-CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The matters considered by the Steering Group were noted.

Gatwick Station - The Government's December 2013 National Infrastructure Plan included a project for a further £50m for a redevelopment of the Gatwick Airport station – this was welcomed. Progressing the railway station scheme is independent of the Airports Commission's work examining a second runway at Gatwick.

GAL will keep GATCOM informed as the scheme proposal progresses.

London Airspace Consultation – the GATCOM's response to the consultation has been submitted to NATS and GAL for consideration – [click here](#) to see response.

END Noise Action Plan (NAP) - GAL is taking into account all the points raised in consultation responses by GATCOM, individual members and other interests and confirmed they will be reflected in the reviewed NAP to be submitted to Defra and the DfT. The Steering Group's concerns about the level of resource for GAL's Noise Team as a result of additional work pressures were noted. GAL confirmed that that extra resource had been allocated to deal with developing proposals for the second runway options enabling the Head of the Noise Team to return to the day to day work of the team.

GAL was congratulated on the good response times to noise enquiries and complaints via the noiseline.

Implementation of P-RNAV – GATCOM Steering Group had, on behalf of GATCOM, endorsed Gatwick's Flight Operations, Performance and Safety Committee's (FLOPSC) request to support the roll-out of P-RNAV SID departures as expeditiously as possible and asked that GAL and DfT be reminded of GATCOM's request for research into and action to improve the conditions of those suffering from greater concentration of aircraft tracks.

THE CAPACITY DEBATE

Airports Commission's Interim Report and Draft Appraisal Framework

The Secretariat's paper summarising the Airports Commission's Interim report and the consultation on the draft Appraisal Framework was considered – [click here](#) to see. GATCOM:

- welcomed the Airports Commission's Interim Report in respect of its recommendations for short to medium terms measures but wished to discuss in more detail the proposed role and powers of the Independent Aviation Noise Authority
- asked the GATCOM Steering Group and NATMAG to consider in more detail the Airports Commission recommendation on the establishment of an Independent Aviation Noise Authority and its proposed role and powers
- agreed to submit a response to the Airports Commission's consultation on the draft Appraisal Framework in respect of seeking clarification on:
 - appraisal assessment – there is the intention to involve the Highways Agency and Network Rail on transport issues but it is not clear what role local authorities will have in assessing environmental impacts

- o whether there is any degree of weighting on the appraisal modules, but if so, what is it?
- o the assessment on the cost and commercial impacts

Gatwick's Runway 2 (R2) Work

GAL outlined in detail the Airports Commission's process and timetable for phase 2 of its work examining the long term options for additional runway capacity at Gatwick and Heathrow. At Gatwick the Commission's analysis will be based on a new runway over 3,000m in length spaced sufficiently south of the existing runway to permit a fully independent operation.

GAL is required to submit to the Airports Commission its "refreshed" scheme and assessments with a preferred option by 9 May. GAL's local consultation timetable does not fit with the Commission's programme for submissions. GAL confirmed that it will submit to the Commission the same information that is subject to its local consultation which may contain a provisional preferred option. GAL emphasised that at this stage it has no preference for the options currently under consideration – the options are as reported to the last GATCOM meeting and on GAL's [website](#).

The key dates are as follows:

- **4 April 2014** (provisional) - GAL launches 6 weeks consultation on its proposed options for R2
- **9 May 2014**– Airports Commission's requires "refreshed" scheme designs to be submitted together with assessments undertaken to support scheme options. GAL's submission will contain the same information/scheme designs and assessments subject to local consultation.
- **16 May 2014** (provisional) – close of GAL's local consultation on options for R2.
- **End July 2014** - GAL aims to submit to the Airports Commission its preferred option taking into account local consultation together a report on the feedback from its local consultation.
- **Oct 2014** – Airports Commission publishes refreshed scheme designs and Commission appraisals.
- **Autumn 2014** - Airports Commission undertakes national consultation on refreshed scheme designs and its appraisal of schemes.

As part of its local consultation GAL's suggested list of exhibition venues, as discussed with the Gatwick Local Authorities, are: Crawley (centre), Crawley (Ifield/Langley Green), Crawley Down, Horley, Horsham, East Grinstead, Smallfield, Ruspur, Charlwood, Lingfield, Edenbridge, Crowborough, Gatwick Airport Terminals – for passengers and staff. Tandridge District Council's representative suggested that GAL may achieve better attendance if an exhibition was held in Felbridge rather than Lingfield. GAL will consider this suggestion together with any others from GATCOM members.

GAL also outlined its joint working arrangements with the Gatwick Local Authorities' Officers Group which had established a number of working groups looking at:

- Housing and employment
- Noise and airspace
- Air Quality
- Land use and other environmental impacts
- Surface access
- Air traffic forecasts
- Public engagement and consultation

A further report will be given at the next meeting of GATCOM

FLOODING AND POWER OUTAGE ON CHRISTMAS EVE

GAL gave an overview of the severe disruption experienced at Gatwick on Christmas Eve as a result of the unusual high rainfall and of the review being undertaken by David McMillan, Non-Executive Director, GAL (see summary of overview in the Chairman's report of the GATCOM Steering Group meeting - [click here](#) to see. Also see report of the Passenger Advisory Group - [click here](#) to see). The review will look at the lessons learned and what actions are required to avoid a reoccurrence. EasyJet is working closely with GAL on the review and the lessons learned.

Members highlighted various concerns about flooding in the local area, balancing ponds pumping permissions and GAL's investment in flood mitigation schemes (specific reference was made to

the Ifield Flood Prevention Reservoir). GAL undertook to write to those members who had raised specific issues of concern/areas requiring clarification. A copy of the letter would be circulated to all GATCOM members for information.

Surrey County Council is establishing a Local Flood Forum. GAL confirmed that it would fully participate in the work of that forum and looked forward to receiving the invite to participate.

GATCOM looks forward to receiving the outcome of David McMillan's review, which is due to be completed in February.

AIRPORT COMMENTARY

Stewart Wingate's commentary on activity and performance of Gatwick over the previous quarter was received.

PASSENGER PICK-UP ARRANGEMENTS – LOCAL RESIDENT DISCOUNT SCHEME

GAL presented its proposed local resident discount scheme for passenger pick up at Gatwick developed in response to concerns expressed by GATCOM and its Passenger Advisory Group at the last meeting – [click here](#) to see presentation slides.

GATCOM appreciated the efforts of GAL to find alternative ways to address local people's concerns about the high cost of picking up relatives and friends from the airport including commuters using Gatwick railway station. Members felt it important to ensure Gatwick remains accessible for those local people from areas where public transport links are poor or non-existent.

GAL has already introduced a range of alternatives/choices to improve accessibility such as two free hours parking in the long stay car parks to address concerns. The suggested local resident discount scheme will complement those alternatives. However, members remained of the view that the suggested local community scheme fell short in terms of the length of time to enable pick up in the short stay car parks and the cost. Members suggested:

- A longer access time of 20 mins in the short stay car parks
- A reduced cost for joining the scheme
- GATCOM monitors the take up of the scheme, the problems/issues and reviews its success or otherwise
- GAL gives consideration to implementing a similar scheme for private taxis

GAL agreed to give further consideration to the points raised before launching the scheme in April. See GAL's website for more details about how to register for the scheme: <http://www.gatwickairport.com/parking/other-parking-options/resident-pickup-scheme/>

GATWICK RELATED PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Crawley Borough Council's report on planning applications determined and outstanding in respect of Gatwick was noted.

PASSENGER ADVISORY GROUP (PAG)

GATCOM supported the work of the PAG and its involvement in a wide range of projects, operations and innovations at Gatwick.

The overall contingency plans, collaborative working and communication plan to minimise disruption from the railway line closure over the Christmas period to enable three major engineering projects to be carried out had been successful and effective. Network Rail was congratulated on the timely completion of the engineering works despite the appalling weather.

GAL was now providing baby buggies to assist arriving passengers with young families to move more easily from the point of disembarking the aircraft to the baggage reclaim hall.

PAG is working with GAL on identifying and implementing ways to improve arrivals baggage delivery. The Gatwick Airline Operators' Committee is also committed to work with PAG and GAL on this project.

NIGHT FLYING RESTRICTIONS AT HEATHROW, GATWICK AND STANSTED STAGE 2 CONSULTATION

GATCOM considered and agreed, with minor amendment, its response to the DfT's stage 2 consultation on the night flying restrictions at the three noise regulated London airports.

There was a mix of views across the GATCOM membership ranging from the need to ban night flights, or seeking a significant reduction in the number of night flights permitted to those recognising the need and value of night flights to the industry, passengers and the economy. Members were of the view that GATCOM's response struck the right balance in seeking to be constructive encapsulating the diverse mix of views.

GATCOM's submitted response is available on GATCOM's website – [click here](#) to see

FLIGHT PERFORMANCE TEAM (FPT) REPORT

GAL's quarterly report covering the period July to September 2013 was considered. The key highlights are:

- The summer period was good in terms of aircraft noise and track keeping performance but noise complaints had increased. This was probably due to the good summer weather as people did more outdoor activities and have windows open more often.
- Track keeping performance has shown another small improvement on the previous year's performance. The greater use of P-RNAV by airlines have helped achieve this. The member for Tandridge District Council thanked easyJet for the improvements in flight performance on the departure route over the Felbridge area.
- GAL was asked to encourage airlines operating A320 aircraft to retrofit the fix to prevent the whine caused by the two small cavities on the underside of the wings. GAL is working through DfT's ANMAC on seeking the retrofit fix. The Gatwick AOC advised that easyJet is to invest in new Airbus aircraft which will come with the retrofit to fix the whine.
- A mobile noise monitor has been sited at Bidborough, Tunbridge Wells.
- GAL was asked to pursue the commissioning of an independent analysis of the results of the P-RNAV trial. GAL is in discussion with a Cambridge university.

NOISE INSULATION SCHEME FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

GAL presented its new noise insulation scheme for residential properties which will be launched on 1 April 2014. The new scheme will be more generous and will benefit a further 869 homes. The scheme boundary has been extended 15km to both the east and west of the airport has been drawn flexibly to ensure entire roads and villages are included so everyone in one area can apply for insulation. It also takes into account the increased sensitivity people have towards noise levels as well as the frequency of how many times they might be overflowed. [Click here](#) to see presentation slides. Also see GAL's website for more details: <http://www.gatwickairport.com/business-community/aircraft-noise/consultations-and-schemes/noise-insulation-scheme/>

TIME SEPARATION DEPARTURES TRIAL – ADNID ROUTE

NATS and GAL presented a departure routes time separation trial that will commence on 10 February 2014 for a period of six months – [click here](#) to see presentation slides. The operational trial would involve the creation of a new, but temporary, departure route (west of the BOGNA route) which would pass over farmland to the west of Billingshurst. The temporary route had been designed to avoid populated areas.

The purpose of the trial is to gather data to help develop national standards for improved efficiency for runway use and establish whether it is operationally feasible to improve time separation between flights off Gatwick's runway using P-RNAV technology. The trial route will also involve a reduction in the currently required angle of divergence between adjacent routes – a turn from 45 degrees to 20 degrees.

NOISE AND TRACK MONITORING ADVISORY GROUP (NATMAG)

The key messages from the meeting of NATMAG held on 28 November were noted.

DFT REVIEW OF GUIDELINES FOR AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES

GATCOM agreed the suggested response to the DfT's consultation with interested parties on the draft reviewed guidelines for Airport Consultative Committees.

GATWICK AREA COMMUNITY TRUST

Gatwick Airport Community Trust is currently inviting applications for grants for deserving projects, particularly in those areas where people are directly affected by operations at Gatwick Airport. The area of benefit covers parts of East and West Sussex, Surrey and Kent. Please pass

on details of the Trust's invitation to any groups/organisations in your area to alert them to this potential source of project funding. See the Trust's website for more details <http://www.gact.org.uk/>

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 10 April 2014 at 2.00 p.m.

**Paula Street
Secretariat**

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