

Please reply to: Cllr John Bowden
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Date: 17th February 2016



Mr Julian Pitt
Department for Communities and Local
Government

Mr Ian Elston
Department for Transport

Dear Sirs

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 – SECTION 78
APPEAL BY LONDON HEATHROW AIRPORT
ENABLING WORKS TO ALLOW IMPLEMENTATION OF FULL RUNWAY
ALTERNATION DURING EASTERLY OPERATIONS AT HEATHROW AIRPORT**

Thank you for the correspondence dated 26th January 2016, confirming the considerations of Secretaries of State for Communities and Local Government, and for Transport, regarding the above planning inspectorate appeal and in particular the wording of a suggested condition regarding noise mitigation.

The condition seeks to formalise the mitigation and support afforded to properties both 63 and 69dB LAeq 16hrs. On behalf of the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead (RBWM), I would like to take the opportunity to formally submit representations to the Planning Inspector. This submission is made, taking into consideration the comments already submitted to the Inspector on 18th November 2014 and to the submission made to the London Borough of Hillingdon on 15th August 2013.

The Council wishes to reiterate that whilst the two noise thresholds would apply to the properties immediately surrounding the airport; many of the residential properties in the Royal Borough affected by overflights would not be addressed by such thresholds. This is due to the noise contours put forward being a totally inadequate representation of noise impact in real terms.

It should also be noted that a 63 and 69dB noise contour also falls well short of the WHO 55dB target for the onset of serious annoyance. This fact is particularly prevalent owing to the Noise Policy Statement for England (NPSE) which aims for the following:

- Avoid significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life;
- Mitigate and minimise adverse impacts on health and quality of life: and
- Where possible, contribute to the improvement of health and quality of life.



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With the above aims in mind and owing to the recognised health impacts of noise disturbance, including: sleep disturbance, annoyance, hypertension etc; the establishment of a noise contour significantly over WHO guidelines cannot be deemed appropriate and falls short of the stated aims within the NPSE.

In light of the above noise impact described, the Council would ask that the Inspector consider imposing a package of noise mitigation measures to all communities affected; ensuring such mitigation is fit for purpose and not simply adhering to the 63dB contour as proposed.

The above approach would ensure that communities both in London and the Thames Valley (in both urban and rural settings) are adequately protected against an ongoing unacceptable noise climate, which is likely to be exacerbated for some communities if the above appeal is granted.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Bowden', with a small 'JP' monogram to the left.

Cllr John Bowden
Chairman of the Aviation Forum