

Night-time noise abatement objectives for the 2022 to 2025 period consultation

Questions

Personal details

Q1. Your (used for contact purposes only):

name?

Sarah Cousins

email?

info@stanstedairportwatch.com

Q2. Are you responding:

b. as an organisation

Organisational details

Q3. Your organisation is:

e. a community group

Q4. Your organisation name is?

Stansted Airport Watch

Q5. What is the main activity of the organisation?

Stansted Airport Watch was established in 2002 in response to Government proposals for major expansion at Stansted Airport. Our objective is to contain the development of Stansted Airport within tight limits that are truly sustainable and, in this way, to protect the quality of life of residents over wide areas of Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire and Suffolk, to preserve our heritage and to protect the natural environment.

Q6. What is the number of people your organisation employs?

a. 1-50

For which airport do you wish to provide your views (you may provide views on more than one airport)?

c. Stansted Airport

Q7. To what extent do you agree, or disagree, with our night-time noise abatement objective for Stansted airport?

Strongly disagree. We do not support growth of night-time flights and in particular freight operations. Quite the contrary. The night-time noise abatement objective must be to progressively reduce flight movements by 10% a year leading to a complete ban other than for emergency or humanitarian reasons. Furthermore, the night-time period should be increased to a full 8 hours (2300 to 0700) as specified in the World Health Organisation guidelines for community noise.

Q8. Provide a reasoning for your answer.

We welcome the commissioning of the latest aviation night noise effects (ANNE) study which will add to the considerable literature already available. Nonetheless, the evidence of adverse effects on health and well-being for people living around airports and under flight paths is already clear. The WHO Environmental Night Noise Guidelines for the European Region, October 2018 provides strong evidence that noise is one of the top environmental hazards to both physical and mental health and well-being in the European Region. These 2018 WHO Night Noise Guidelines are a comprehensive review of evidence based on 400 health effect studies between 1999 and 2015 and the results compiled by project partners from 12 European countries including the U.K.

Q9. Would alternative wording be preferable for the night-time noise abatement objective? If yes, provide a reasoning for your answer.

Yes.

Q10. Provide a reasoning for your answer.

As stated in our answer to Q7, we do not support growth of night-time flights and wish to see them reduced leading to a complete ban.

Q11. Provide alternative wording on a night-time noise abatement objective.

Avoid, prevent or reduce the number of people significantly affected by aircraft noise at night by progressively reducing the number of flight movements by 10% a year leading to a complete ban other than for emergency or humanitarian reasons and including encouraging the use of less noisy aircraft.

Q12. How should the proposed night-time noise abatement objective for Stansted airport be assessed to ensure it is successful?

The noise abatement objective must be assessed over 8 hours (2300 to 0700) for the reduction of the number of people in the 48dB LAeq night contour. To ensure successful achievement of this objective it will be necessary to monitor adherence to progressively reducing the number of flight movements by 10% a year leading to a complete ban other than for emergency or humanitarian reasons

Final comments

Q13. Any other comments?

No.