



STRATEGIC AVIATION SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP  
of the Local Government Association

## ITEM 10: REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN'S ADVISORY GROUP MEETING ON 17 OCTOBER 2008

### Summary

This item reports back on the Chairman's Advisory Group (CAG) meeting held on 17 October 2008. Following the CAG meeting, the reports considered have been amended and form the reports on the agenda for this full SASIG meeting.

### Recommendation

That the contents of the report be noted.

### Apologies for absence

- 1 Apologies were received from Cllr Angus Ross (Wokingham DC), Cllr David Munro (SASIG Vice-Chairman, Surrey CC).

### Notes of last meeting and matters arising

- 2 There were no matters arising. The group agreed the notes from 12 June 2008.

### The need for a new national aviation policy

- 3 The group noted the report.
- 4 Concerns were raised regarding matters in the Inspector's Report from the **Stansted G1 Planning Inquiry** as the Inspector had ruled that national aviation policy could not be contested but that the merits of that policy could be debated, e.g. the economic benefits are other than indicated. This was a clear instance of imposition of the national policy in the absence of thorough and informed debate of the local situation, and has considerable implications for future Inquiries of this type.

### National aviation policy update

- 5 The **Planning Bill**, currently at Committee Stage in the Lords, needs intensive lobbying from the SASIG membership on several key issues, including the clause allowing only 28 days for Local Authority input. A briefing note will be circulated to the membership.
- 6 The **Climate Change Committee** has recommended an 80% decrease in UK climate change emissions, which was agreed in a recent statement by Ed Milliband, the new Minister for Climate Change and Energy.
- 7 In deliberations on the **European Union Emissions Trading Scheme** it has been decided that aviation will be included without any binding caps on emissions. The EU Committee of the Regions could possibly assist with lobbying on this issue.

- 8 It was reported that the three options presented in the **Heathrow Equalities Impact Assessment** differ from those presented in the main consultation document.

**Defra consultation on 'Noise Action Plan Guidance'- SASIG draft response**

- 9 The group noted the report.

**Defra consultation on 'Local Air Quality Management Guidance' – SASIG response**

- 10 The group noted the report.

**Transport Select Committee 'Inquiry into the Use of Airspace' - SASIG evidence submission**

- 11 If SASIG is called to speak, an offer of assistance was provided.

- 12 The group noted the report.

**Proposed SASIG budget for 2009/10**

- 13 The group considered the proposed expenditure and income for 2009/10, and agreed the rate of 2009/10 subscriptions to be proposed.

**Any other business**

14 **EU Commission Review of Directive 2002/30/EC – Noise Related Operating Restrictions**

The Department for Transport (DfT) has asked for comments on this EU Commission Review. The group commented on the need to include reference to night noise and helicopter noise in the SASIG response. The group agreed that the Chairman approve the final response, to be submitted on 17/10/08.

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