

19 to 25 November 2011 - Regional and Industry News

<b>SASIG 2011/12 Meeting Date</b> .....	1
Friday 24 February 2012.....	1
<b>Regional News</b> .....	1
Hopes for new routes from Aberdeen Airport following runway extension .....	1
London Mayor launches report indicating economic need for new airport.....	2
Ministers refuse to back plan for new airport .....	2
<b>Industry News</b> .....	3
Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) to be given more powers .....	3
<b>Traffic Statistics</b> .....	4
Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) traffic statistics (September 2011) .....	4

## SASIG 2011/12 Meeting Date

The forthcoming SASIG meeting in 2011/12 will be on:

**Friday 24 February 2012**

Meetings are held between 11am and 1pm, at Local Government House, Smith Square, SW1P 3HZ, with lunch provided afterwards; a location map is at

<http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/core/page.do?pagelid=27909>.  
[back to top](#)

## Regional News

### Hopes for new routes from Aberdeen Airport following runway extension

22 November 2011

The £10m, 124m (406ft) extension of Aberdeen Airport's main runway was completed in October 2011, almost eight months ahead of schedule. It is hoped this improved facility could open up new routes.

Groups including 'Aberdeen Against Climate Change' had objected to the development. A study by York Aviation has predicted an additional 205,000 passengers by 2015, and a considerable boost to the local economy.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-north-east-orkney-shetland-15838537>  
[back to top](#)

## **London Mayor launches report indicating economic need for new airport**

21 November 2011

London Mayor, Boris Johnson, has launched a report into the economic benefits of the proposals for a new estuary hub airport. The report entitled 'A New Airport for London' has been published in light of the Government's forthcoming sustainable framework for aviation, due out in March 2012. Mr Johnson stated that plans to increase existing capacity at Heathrow would introduce significant environmental and social problems and fail to solve capacity shortfalls on key routes between the UK and China and the emerging economies of Latin America.

The report, produced with the consortium leading on plans for the Thames Hub project, has estimated that the failure to address the UK's lack of aviation policy has cost the UK economy £1.2 billion a year (and the cost of doing nothing at £14bn over the next 10 years) as airline operators shift their hub business away from London to new hub facilities at Schiphol, Frankfurt and Paris.

<http://www.london.gov.uk/publication/new-airport-london-part-2>  
[back to top](#)

## **Ministers refuse to back plan for new airport**

21 November 2011

Ministers have ruled out making any decision about a new hub airport in the Thames Estuary until at least the middle of next year, sources have told The Times. Even then they are unlikely to back the idea because of huge "practical difficulties" that they do not think can be overcome.

Officials have privately slapped down Boris Johnson's campaign for a four-runway airport to the east of London. That could lead to an angry backlash by the Mayor of London, who will speak to the Institute of Directors about the project. Mr Johnson thinks the project - dubbed 'Boris Island' - could boost the economy and generate tens of thousands of jobs.

There had been suggestions of growing support in Downing Street and even the backing of George Osborne, the Chancellor; however, sources say the claims are overblown and the Treasury has not started considering the proposal. A protest movement is under way in the areas of Kent and Medway Councils that would be affected by the Thames Estuary project.

Lord Foster of Thames Bank has put forward plans for a similar scheme on the Isle of Grain in Kent at the cost £50 billion. Some of the issues to be resolved for the project to be a success are funding, flight paths, an associated programme for operations at Heathrow, and the decommissioning of the sunken warship SS Richard Montgomery, which contains explosives.

Mr Johnson's idea will be considered by Justine Greening, the Transport Secretary, in spring 2012, as he has submitted his idea to a major consultation on the future of aviation policy. This scheme is one of a number of ideas submitted as part of the Government's review of national aviation policy, such as smaller projects using military sites east of London.

Philip Hammond, who was Transport Secretary until October 2011, wanted to link Heathrow and Gatwick airports by rail as a way of boosting growth.

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article3232834.ece>  
[back to top](#)

## Industry News

### **Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) to be given more powers**

23 November 2011

The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) will gain new powers to impose financial penalties on under-performing airport operators through new legislation from the Department for Transport (DfT). Transport Secretary, Justine Greening, has published a draft version of the new Civil Aviation Bill, which is expected to be introduced by Parliament early next year.

The changes to the remit of the CAA are designed to modernise key elements of the regulatory framework for civil aviation in the UK and to enable the sector to increase its contribution to economic growth without compromising high standards.

Under the draft Bill, the CAA will be able to impose “a range of penalties” for breaching licence conditions, up to 10% of an airport’s annual turnover. The Government hopes this will mean the CAA can “better incentivise compliance and penalise poor performance”.

Easyjet and Virgin Atlantic have spoken out in support of the Government’s planned changes.

London First, the London business lobby group, has welcomed the prospect of the CAA having greater powers to tighten up airport operators’ performance on issues such as queues, and more scope to tailor regulation to meet the particular needs of those major airports that serve London.

Ms Greening said the DfT’s new airports legislation was centred around the experience of passengers, and that the needs of passengers and businesses must be placed at the heart of the transport networks.

EDITOR’S NOTE: the Transport Secretary’s statement is reported in the accompanying SASIG Bulletin – Week 3, November 2011, Parliamentary & Government News.

<http://assets.dft.gov.uk/publications/civil-aviation-bill/>

<http://www.londonfirst.co.uk/news/news-by-date/detail.asp?record=231>

[back to top](#)

## Traffic Statistics

### Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) traffic statistics (September 2011)

The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) provides monthly UK aviation statistics. The total terminal and transit passenger figures for September 2011 compared with September 2010 are summarised below:

- for all reporting UK airports in September 2011 - **21,912,054** compared with **21,747,139** in September 2010, an increase of 0.76%;
- for all reporting regional airports in September 2011 - **8,215,137** compared with **8,198,235** in September 2010, an increase of 0.21%; and
- for all reporting London airports in September 2011 - **13,696,917** compared with **13,548,904** in September 2010, an increase of 1.09%

The total air transport movement figures for September 2010 compared with September 2010 are also summarised below:

- for all reporting UK airports in September 2011 - **170,767** compared with **171,850** in September 2010, a decrease of 0.63%;
- for all reporting regional airports in September 2011 - **78,474** compared with **79,808** in September 2010, a decrease of 1.67%; and
- for all reporting London airports in September 2011 - **92,293** compared with **92,042** in September 2010, an increase of 0.27%.

A selection of the CAA figures for passengers (terminal and transit; PAX) and air transport movements (ATMs) for September 2011 are given in the following table for the larger English airports, showing the percentage change from a year earlier.

<http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?catid=80&pagetype=88&pageid=3&sqlid=3#Data>  
[back to top](#)

Reporting Airport Name	Total ATMs Sept 2011	Total ATMs Sept 2010	ATM % change	Total PAX Sept 2011	Total PAX Sept 2010	PAX % change
Gatwick	22,903	22,413	2.19%	3,364,103	3,209,735	4.81%
Heathrow	40,580	40,072	1.27%	6,314,750	6,232,877	1.31%
London City	6,132	6,253	-1.94%	280,190	262,634	6.68%
Luton	7,148	6,801	5.10%	937,206	868,667	7.89%
Stansted	12,706	13,263	-4.20%	1,705,087	1,776,335	-4.01%
<b>London total</b>	<b>89,469</b>	<b>88,802</b>	<b>0.75%</b>	<b>12,601,336</b>	<b>12,350,248</b>	<b>2.03%</b>
Birmingham	8,068	8,314	-2.96%	904,127	917,858	-1.50%
Blackpool	922	1,107	-16.71%	30,409	32,288	-5.82%
Bournemouth	638	816	-21.81%	76,597	93,932	-18.45%
Bristol	5,186	5,278	-1.74%	619,276	610,492	1.44%
Cardiff	1,630	1,727	-5.62%	144,875	162,629	-10.92%
Coventry	28	-	-	-	-	0.00%
Doncaster Sheffield	731	848	-13.80%	101,990	106,892	-4.59%
Durham Tees Valley	513	658	-22.04%	15,325	26,093	-41.27%
East Midlands	5,656	5,348	5.76%	484,524	454,095	6.70%
Edinburgh	9,953	9,902	0.52%	900,043	873,303	3.06%
Exeter	1,247	1,334	-6.52%	82,443	87,944	-6.26%
Glasgow	6,518	6,767	-3.68%	698,408	677,870	3.03%
Humberside	1,183	1,320	-10.38%	28,126	34,829	-19.25%
Leeds Bradford	3,230	3,503	-7.79%	331,890	318,412	4.23%
Liverpool (John Lennon)	4,288	4,028	6.45%	512,225	488,409	4.88%
Manchester	15,320	14,642	4.63%	2,045,398	1,920,747	6.49%
Newcastle	4,373	4,750	-7.94%	481,473	492,626	-2.26%
Newquay	643	1,118	-42.49%	20,886	34,882	-40.12%
Norwich	1,881	1,888	-0.37%	46,859	48,467	-3.32%
Southampton	3,789	3,928	-3.54%	175,751	174,653	0.63%
Southend	173	111	55.86%	4,738	515	820.00%
<b>Regional total</b>	<b>75,970</b>	<b>77,387</b>	<b>-1.83%</b>	<b>7,705,363</b>	<b>7,556,936</b>	<b>1.96%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>165,439</b>	<b>166,189</b>	<b>-0.45%</b>	<b>20,306,699</b>	<b>19,907,184</b>	<b>2.01%</b>

Most of the Parliamentary information in this Bulletin and some news items were sourced from De Havilland Information Services plc.

The following sources are also used: ABTN Air & Business Travel News, ACI Airports Council International, AERBT An Executive Review of Business Travel, Airwise.com, Anna Aero, Aviation International, BAA Ltd, ENDS Environmental Data Services, Financial Times, IATA International Air Transport Association, BBC, The Guardian, The Independent, Planning Portal, The Telegraph, Transportinfo, United Kingdom Parliament.

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