

<b>SASIG 2011/12 Meeting Dates .....</b>	<b>2</b>
Friday 28 October 2011 and Friday 24 February 2012.....	2
<b>Regional &amp; Industry News.....</b>	<b>2</b>
easyJet to launch services from London Southend Airport.....	2
Birmingham Airport – night flying policy; new aircraft maintenance centre.....	3
Unsuccessful Regional Growth Fund bid for Kent's Manston Airport .....	4
First phase of Lydd Airport upgrade opened.....	4
Operator of Bristol Airport achieves Carbon Trust Standard .....	4
Kit Malthouse, London Assembly Member, wins Boris' support against night flights .....	5
Emissions and wasted fuel result from poorly-managed Heathrow Airport .....	5
BA gives up hope of Heathrow third runway.....	6
Heathrow T5 improvements to greet British Airways customers .....	6
2010 Heathrow Airport sustainability report released .....	7
Heathrow operator promises quieter skies ahead .....	7
UK flights show underlying increase of 2.4% in May 2011 .....	8

## **SASIG 2011/12 Meeting Dates**

Forthcoming SASIG meetings in 2011/12 will be on:

**Friday 28 October 2011 and 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?pageId=27909>.

[back to top](#)

## **Regional & Industry News**

### **easyJet to launch services from London Southend Airport**

16 June 2011

The operator of easyJet has announced that the airline will begin operating from London Southend Airport from April 2012. The UK's largest airline will open its newest base with three A319 aircraft, over 150 employees and with around 800,000 passengers expected to fly in the first year.

There will be 70 easyJet flights per week and passengers will have a choice of around ten different European destinations including Barcelona, Faro and Ibiza. Tickets will go on sale at the end of July.

London Southend Airport, with a multi million pound brand new terminal opening in autumn 2011, will be easyJet's eleventh UK base - of 20 bases internationally - and is located within a minute's walk from a new train station with superb links into London. easyJet has signed a ten year partnership agreement with Stobart Group, owners of the airport.

Catherine Lynn, easyJet's Customer and Revenue Director, expects the new routes to appeal to customers in Essex and London looking for a convenient new departure point for many top European destinations. She also believes that the European city links will attract a high number of inbound business and leisure passengers to London next year.

London Southend Airport Managing Director, Alastair Welch, added that a dedicated railway station will be opened at the airport with up to eight services an hour to Stratford - site of the 2012 games, and to London Liverpool Street, both in well under an hour.

A new state-of-the-art control tower is now operational at the airport; work on the runway extension is underway, as is a new terminal building to be completed this autumn; and a new hotel that will open in 2012.

The airport operator is targeting both the business and leisure markets, and is aiming to serve over two million passengers annually.

[back to top](#)

## **Birmingham Airport – night flying policy; new aircraft maintenance centre**

### **Night flying policy**

Solihull Council has granted the operator of Birmingham Airport a new annual night flying quota, following a business boom in the Midlands. For instance, freight traffic that previously used Coventry Airport has been picked up by Birmingham, and the increase in traffic this year compared with last year led to the likelihood of the limit of 4,743 flights being reached this September.

As an interim measure, Solihull Council agreed the 2011 quota could be based on the busiest year during the past five years, rather than on recession-hit 2010. Prior to this, the annual quota had been based on 5% of the previous year's air traffic movements.

As part of the operator's continued community relations programme, members of the local community are invited to meet the airport team to discuss airport related activity, particularly the night flying policy. This policy is currently under review and includes a proposal to reduce the noise level at which aircraft are allowed to operate from 87 to 85 decibels.

For several years, a programme of outreach sessions have been organised by the airport operator at libraries and community centres in those communities most affected by its operations.

Each session lasts for two hours and aims to provide residents with the opportunity to sit down and discuss any issues or concerns they may have face to face with members of the Community and Environment Team.

The sessions take place during the daytime as well as in the evening and are free and open to all; details are at: <http://www.birminghamairport.co.uk/meta/news/2011/06/outreach-news-article.aspx>

### **New on-airport aircraft maintenance centre agreed**

Eurojet Aviation, one of the UK's leading aircraft management, charter and maintenance companies, has announced a major £5 million expansion plan at Birmingham Airport.

Eurojet's plans involve construction of a new 41,000 sq ft complex housing a state-of-the-art maintenance facility, a full-service fixed-base operator (FBO), a commercial operations centre and an aircraft sales suite.

The maintenance facility is due to be completed by the end of the year when it will become an official manufacturer-authorized service centre. Eurojet will also base two of its managed Cessna Citation aircraft at the new FBO. It is projected that the scheme will create up to 50 new jobs.

[back to top](#)

## **Unsuccessful Regional Growth Fund bid for Kent's Manston Airport**

20 June 2011

Kent County Council (KCC) and operator of Kent's Manston Airport, Infratil, have been unsuccessful in their bid for £600,000 from the Government's Regional Growth Fund, to underwrite the first three year's costs of a new air service from the airport. Reports derive from documents released under the Freedom of Information Act.

Infratil is in advanced confidential talks with an unidentified airline, regarding plans for a twice-daily service to an unnamed European destination from next April.

<http://www.uk-airport-news.info/kent-airport-news-200611.html>

[back to top](#)

## **First phase of Lydd Airport upgrade opened**

27 June 2011

The first phase of the multi-million pound refurbishment of Kent's Lydd Airport has been completed. The work on improving passenger check-in and security facilities is part of a development programme that will be completed by the end of the year.

Also complete are the larger arrivals and baggage reclaim areas and a new departure lounge designed to handle 100 passengers per hour. Over £30m has been spent on improvements at the airport.

A public inquiry into the planning applications for a 294m runway extension plus a 150m starter extension, and a new terminal capable of handling up to 500,000 passengers a year, got under way in February.

<http://www.uk-airport-news.info/lydd-airport-news-270611.html>

[back to top](#)

## **Operator of Bristol Airport achieves Carbon Trust Standard**

29 June 2011

The operator of Bristol Airport has been awarded the Carbon Trust Standard after taking action to measure, manage and reduce its carbon emissions by almost 4%. The Standard recognises organisations for carbon reduction based on rigorous, independent assessment, certifying that organisations have measured, managed and reduced emissions across their own operations and are committed to reducing them year on year.

Initiatives that helped reduce emissions at the airport include the introduction of motion sensitive lighting; new heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems in the terminal; and reduced coach movements as a result of the construction of a new western walkway. Further use of wind power (following the installation of a 20m high vertical axis turbine last December) and a biomass generator are future plans.

<http://www.uk-airport-news.info/bristol-airport-news-290611.html>

[back to top](#)

## **Kit Malthouse, London Assembly Member, wins Boris' support against night flights**

15 June 2011

Kit Malthouse, West Central London's Assembly Member, won the Mayor's support in a campaign to cut the amount of night flying over London. Quizzing Boris at Mayor's Question Time, Mr Malthouse drew his attention to next year's Government consultation on the future of night flights over the capital after 2012 and asked him to make representation urging a reduction in the volume of air traffic allowed to fly over London between 23:30hrs and 06:00hrs. The Mayor agreed to do so.

Speaking afterwards Mr Malthouse said: "I am delighted that Boris has given this commitment to respond to the Government's consultation on the future of night flights over London. "My constituents in West Central regularly have their sleep disturbed by jets using Heathrow, which I and they think unacceptable. There is no doubt that the regime governing night flights needs to be significantly strengthened so that the disturbance they cause is reduced to a minimum."

[http://www.london.gov.uk/media/press\\_releases\\_assembly\\_member/news-kit-malthouse-malthouse-wins-boris%E2%80%99-support-against-night-](http://www.london.gov.uk/media/press_releases_assembly_member/news-kit-malthouse-malthouse-wins-boris%E2%80%99-support-against-night-)

[back to top](#)

## **Emissions and wasted fuel result from poorly-managed Heathrow Airport**

28 June 2011

Overcrowded skies could be costing the UK economy millions of pounds every day as business leaders from across the country lobby for more runways. Heathrow Airport being so poorly run that 98% of capacity is used, leaving no provision for handling delays or affording a degree of resilience, alongside the Government's firm position against new runways at South East airports on the basis of the unacceptable environmental impact, means that some airline operators are looking abroad for new business.

Fuel worth £119,000 alone is wasted above London every day as planes 'stack' delaying an average of 55,800 passengers for between four and 20 minutes. Stacking not only affects the economy, but also has detrimental environmental effects. In a cumulative total of 55 hours' flying time, 190 tonnes of fuel are burned needlessly with 600 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> released into the atmosphere.

Business leaders want to see a brand new £40 billion airport built to the east of London in the Thames Estuary to avert capacity problems - an idea that is supported by Mayor Boris Johnson who says it would improve life in the capital and help trade with new markets.

Jon Proudlove, Managing Director of NATS Ltd - air traffic control company – admitted this is not a great environmental story, and explained it is important that people recognise this unacceptable situation as the result of operating Heathrow Airport at 98% of capacity in conjunction with the other most utilised piece of infrastructure in the world, Gatwick Airport.

The Aviation Minister, Theresa Villiers, hit out at criticisms that Government did not have a strategy for the future of air travel in the UK, saying views are being taken from the industry, but the effect on the environment is high on the Government's agenda.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2008993/Terminal-capacity-Overcrowded-skies-cost-millions-delays-airlines-look-space-expand.html#ixzz1RtMxz6JN>

[back to top](#)

## **BA gives up hope of Heathrow third runway**

22 June 2011

Mr Walsh, Chief Executive of BA's parent company, International Airlines Group (IAG), said that they are now looking for space to grow at foreign cities with a focus of attention on Madrid. Speaking at a Chief Executives' summit organised by *The Times* newspaper, he said that overcrowding in London had already forced airlines to look elsewhere. Mr Walsh said that the coalition Government's decision to cancel expansion at Heathrow meant that the runway plan was now dead.

BA was one of the main driving forces behind plans to expand its Heathrow hub and campaigners against the proposal hailed Mr Walsh's admission as a victory. However, business groups warned that it represented "tangible evidence" that current transport policy is damaging the British economy.

Boris Johnson, the Mayor of London, told the summit he considered it a serious situation if BA felt that in order to expand it has to go to Madrid. Mr Johnson is eager to secure greater capacity for flights to and from London, and supports a plan to build a new airport in the Thames estuary.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/travel/travelnews/8591012/BA-gives-up-hope-of-Heathrow-third-runway.html>

[back to top](#)

## **Heathrow T5 improvements to greet British Airways customers**

3 June 2011

British Airways' customers flying through Terminal 5 at Heathrow are now benefiting from even more space and improved facilities following the opening of a new £340m third part of the terminal. The new satellite terminal, known as 'T5 C', provides additional capacity and will help to make sure that customers have an even smoother start or end to their journeys.

More than 70 million customers on over 500,000 flights have used Terminal 5 since it opened in March 2008 and the facility has helped British Airways to achieve record levels of punctuality, baggage performance and the airline's highest ever customer satisfaction scores.

With the opening of T5 C, an extra three million customers each year, will be able to walk directly on or off their aircraft by using a covered 'air bridge' linked to the terminal building, rather than having to use a bus. The new satellite terminal has 12 boarding gates, of which eight are triple bridges designed to cater for the new 12 strong fleet of Airbus A380 aircraft joining British Airways from early 2013.

Situated closer to the other terminals at Heathrow, T5 C will give British Airways greater flexibility in how it manages its 4,000 flights a week. A new dedicated transfer baggage tunnel linking T5 C and Terminal 3, due to open in 2012 will further improve baggage performance for all airlines at the airport.

The T5 C satellite is linked to the rest of Terminal 5 by the existing underground transit system, with journeys taking just over a minute.

<http://press.ba.com/?p=1749>

[back to top](#)

## **2010 Heathrow Airport sustainability report released**

20 June 2011

The 2010 sustainability report for Heathrow Airport has been released showing performance on environmental measures. Targets were achieved for CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and air quality, however, those for waste, water consumption and quality were missed.

The airport operator's target to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from energy consumption by 1.4% from 2009 levels was exceeded with a reduction of 3.6%. On air quality the aim was to meet 85% auxiliary power unit (APU) compliance, and 91% APU compliance was achieved. Although the company's performance on construction waste was good against the targets set, with the 96% of construction waste recycled, a general and landscaped waste recycling target of 50% was missed by 12%. The operator of the airport acknowledged they need to do more in certain areas.

<http://www.uk-airport-news.info/heathrow-airport-news-200611.html>

[back to top](#)

## **Heathrow operator promises quieter skies ahead**

17 June 2011

The operator at Heathrow Airport, BAA Ltd., has launched the Noise Action Plan for the airport promising that the area affected by plane noise will shrink over the next five years.

The strategy, containing 66 actions to manage noise, was drawn up following a four-month consultation in summer 2009, and is said to have undergone major changes as a result of local feedback. Progress on meeting Noise Action Plan commitments will be independently audited and verified, and open for everyone to see. The Noise Action Plan sets out how the operator is working with airline operators to ensure that only the quietest planes use the airport.

Negotiations will seek to phase out the older, noisier aircraft by 2015 and landing charges will be reviewed to ensure that airlines are rewarded financially for using quieter planes. Tougher noise targets will be set for night flights, and the operator intends to find new ways to improve operational performance. They will also review the amount that airline operators are fined if they break noise limits, with all money raised donated to local community initiatives.

Heathrow's Chief Operating Officer, Terry Morgan said: "We know noise from Heathrow is annoying for people who live close to the airport. While the airport supports jobs and investment, we care about reducing its negative impacts too. This plan sets out practical steps we are taking to manage noise. Our progress in meeting these commitments will be independently verified and published so anyone can hold us to account. I'd like to thank everyone who contributed to the consultation and helped make this a better plan."

Copies of the Noise Action Plan are being sent to Local Authorities and MPs and the document is available online at [www.heathrow.com/noise](http://www.heathrow.com/noise).

The Noise Action Plan is a separate document from the review into noise mitigation schemes at Heathrow that is currently ongoing - see [www.heathrow.com/consultations](http://www.heathrow.com/consultations) for more information.

[back to top](#)

## **UK flights show underlying increase of 2.4% in May 2011**

17 June 2011

The underlying growth in the number of UK flights was 2.4% in May 2011 compared to the same month the previous year, according to NATS Ltd's monthly statistics. However, due to disruption caused by volcanic ash clouds in both years, the overall figure increased by 6.1% in May 2011 compared to May 2010.

All centres and markets experienced an increase in traffic this month. The growth in 'Oceanic Area' traffic is particularly high (22%) due to the comparison with a decreased 2010 figure, when flights were being rerouted due to the position of the ash cloud in Oceanic airspace in 2010. Traffic at airports handled by NATS Ltd increased overall by 5.1% this month.

<http://www.airtransportnews.aero/article.pl?id=30618>

[back to top](#)

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.

SASIG, PO Box 1308, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 2WF. Tel: (020) 8541 9459
Fax: (020) 8541 9447      Email: <a href="mailto:sasig@surreycc.gov.uk">sasig@surreycc.gov.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.sasig.org.uk">www.sasig.org.uk</a>