**Newcastle Airport Consultative Committee**

**Summary of Meeting 14th March 2023**

**Attendees**

13 Committee members were in attendance, plus 3 officers from Newcastle Airport.

7 apologies were received.

**Minutes of last meeting and matters arising**

The Committee agreed the minutes of the last meeting in December 2022.

The Airport informed members that the Solar Farm is now operational and producing power.

**Chair’s Business**

The Chair confirmed that the Terms of Reference for the Noise Sub Committee had been agreed and accepted at the last meeting of the Noise Sub Committee in February.

The meeting cycle was agreed, where the Noise Sub Committee meetings will continue to occur three weeks before each Airport Consultative Committee meeting. This to enable suggestions from the Noise Sub Committee to be raised to the Committee for their consideration.

The Chair informed the Committee of WebTrack, an online noise and flight keeping software used by the Airport, and suggested members look at it and familiarise themselves with the platform to aid discussions at Noise Sub Committee.

**Secretary’s business**

The Secretary announced that the new representative for Heddon-on-the-Wall Parish Council will also be attending the Noise Sub Committee meetings.

**Airport report**

The Airport presented the key findings of the Airport Report for Q1 2023:

* The rolling 12 month passenger numbers are lower than 2019, but the Airport is recovering well with staff and profits levels close to pre-pandemic.
* Loganair has based a second aircraft at the Airport. Ryanair, SunExpress, Aer Lingus, Aegean, and Jet2.com all have new upcoming services and TUI is increasing the frequency of their long haul services.
* Waiting times at security search remain at 98% under 6 minutes.
* The Airport`s Passenger Services assisted 11,684 people in Q1 2023 and it was agreed that the Airport would share the number of passengers assisted Q1 2020 as a comparison.
* Phase 1 of the security redevelopment remains on track for completion before Easter 2023.
* The Marketing Department continue to perform well on all social media platforms.
* The Department for Transport has launched a Call for Evidence for views on Airport operations being zero emissions by 2040.
* Recruitment has become easier but the Airport is remaining vigilant with active advertisements for job roles. The recruitment process has recently been reviewed for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) and the Airport works with the Newcastle and Sunderland Charity Foundations for recruitment.
* The secretary informed members that noise complaints are received through email and using the information given the incident(s) are investigated using NoiseDesk, the Airport’s noise and flight tracking keeping system. If further information is needed Air Traffic Control is consulted. All information gathered is formulated into a response to the complainant.
* The Airport will be updating its Noise Action Plan in 2023.
* Phase 1 of the Solar Farm is completed and now operational. Data from the electricity generated by the Solar Farm will be provided at the next Committee. Replacement works of the woodland planting will commence in April to replace saplings that have died during the winter period.
* The Airport’s Masterplan will be reviewed and updated in 2023. The Masterplan will assess all areas of the Airport’s infrastructure and operations to accommodate the Airport’s growth until 2040.

**Noise Sub Committee**

The ACC Committee endorsed of the Noise Sub Committee Terms of Reference. There were no objections and the Terms of Reference were formally adopted.

The Airport gave the Committee a brief overview of what was discussed at the Noise Sub Committee meeting in February 2023.

A presentation of a full year’s worth of noise complaints data was provided and a representative from EnviroSuite attended the meeting to give a presentation on the software the Airport uses to monitor noise and flight tracks.

**Any other business**

The Airport informed the Committee that a renewed strategy is in development to improve the customer journey through the Airport. This means that the external advertising will be reviewed and replaced in a year or two depending on CAPEX budgets.

The footpath from the Shell garage to Prestwick is overgrown and has litter. Representatives from the City Council and the Airport agreed to investigate this.

**Date of next meeting**

The Chair informed the members the next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 13th June 2023**, in person at the Airport.