**Newcastle Airport Consultative Committee**

**Summary of Meeting 12th December 2023**

**Present**

9 Committee members were in attendance, plus 4 officers from Newcastle Airport.

6 apologies were received.

**Minutes of last meeting and matters arising**

The Committee agreed the minutes of the last meeting were an accurate representation and the matters arising from the previous meeting had all been completed.

**Chairman’s Business**

The Chair updated the Committee about the sad passing of Alan Varley, who had been a member of the Consultative Committee representing Ponteland Town Council for several years.

**Secretary’s Business**

The Secretary welcomed the Airport’s new Environmental and Sustainability Advisor to the group.

**Airport Company Report**

Officers took the Committee through the Airport Company Report.

* The business continues to perform strongly, with passenger numbers exceeding 2019 pre-pandemic levels for the first time in October
* Passenger numbers are expected to continue to grow thanks to several new routes that will continue next year including TUI to Cape Verde and Sharm el Sheikh and Athens with AEGEAN
* The Airport won two prestigious awards recently, the Travel Bulletin Star awards and ‘Airport of the Year’ at the Routes World Conference
* The Airport is working on the implementation of the Next Generation security equipment, which is expected to be in place well ahead of the Government’s summer deadline
* The Passenger Assistance team continues to be busy, with the number of passengers requiring assistance being significantly higher than in 2022.
* A new marketing campaign is being prepared to launch on Boxing Day to promote the Airport’s Summer flights and the ‘award-winning’ passenger experience
* The complete refurbishment of the Airport’s catering outlets in the departure lounge continues, with several outlets expected to open ahead of the Easter holidays
* Former Aviation Minister Baroness Veer visit the Airport recently and was given an update on business performance
* Pleasingly the number of complaints in relation to noise have reduced, despite the number of aircraft movements increasing. The Noise Sub Committee continues to meet on a regular basis to provide a dedicated forum for noise.

**Website Presentation**

An Officer took the Committee through a presentation on the NHS drone trials that had been undertaken recently.

**Date of next meeting**

The Chair informed the members the next meeting would be held on **Tuesday 12th March at 10:00.**