

HIGH EASTER PARISH COUNCIL

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Andrew Haines
Chief Executive of Civil Aviation Authority
CAA House
45-59 Kingsway
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WC2B 6TE

23rd September 2016

Dear Mr Haines

Aircraft Noise over the Village Of High Easter

I write at the request of High Easter Parish Council (HEPC) and the 600+ parishioners registered on the electoral roll plus their dependents, that it represents. HEPC wish to make you aware of the significant and adverse impact of changes in Stansted Airport departure routes introduced in February 2016 and to seek your reassurance that a full review of the changes will take place before or in February 2017. Furthermore, this Parish Council asks you to ensure the review considers reversing the decision made or at the very least considers alternative options to alleviate the intolerable noise disturbance now being experienced by those who live and work in High Easter.

High Easter is a both village and a large parish, with many outlying homes and businesses. The 'Clacton 22 East' route overflies the village entering at the north west and exiting at the east; its close proximity to the village centre means aircraft fly over the most populated areas. Aircraft are below 7,000ft throughout, significantly and adversely affecting the tranquility of the village, both by reason of noise and visual intrusion. This is a rural area with low ambient noise and the impact of any aircraft noise is magnified.

High Easter Parish Council strongly objected to the proposals in the 2014 NATS consultation on 'Departure Route proposal at London Stansted Airport', primarily due to the adverse effect it would have on the community. Since the changes were introduced earlier this year the Parish Council has found itself inundated with resident's concerns and has been working with MAGS, Stansted Airport, Stop Stansted Expansion and other local Parish Councils to help residents understand the changes introduced and to ensure they have the information necessary should they wish to report their issues.

The Parish Council would appreciate your confirmation on,

1. When the review is likely to take place,
2. Your assurance that the review will consider all aspects of the decision including whether it should be reversed and alternative options for alleviating noise on those now adversely affected.
3. That the review will consider the impact on households and population effected between 4,000 and 7,000ft. The original consultation made no reference to the impact on this group where noise is a significant and a major issue in largely rural areas.

Finally, we are aware that Uttlesford District Council has sent a letter to you on this subject, dated 12th August 2016; High Easter Parish Council fully supports the content of that letter.

Yours sincerely

ALLISON WARD
Clerk to High Easter Parish Council

cc by email The Rt. Hon. Sir Alan Haselhurst, M.P.
Andrew Cowan – Divisional CEO Stansted Airport
Martin Rolfe – Chief Executive Officer NATS
Stewart Ashurst - Chairman STACC
Martin Peachey - SSE