

**Joint Airport Scrutiny Working Group  
21 October 2013  
4:00pm to 6:00pm**

**Extract of minutes relating to Green Policy**

**6.0 Presentation of the fourth review of the Gloucestershire Airport Green Policy report**

- 6.1 DL reminded members that the green policy had been developed as part of a condition for the runway safety project and continues to evolve. The airport has now taken responsibility for producing the review report, as requested at the November 2012 JAWG meeting. The past year has been the busiest year for some time for GAL and the airport is now rated 11<sup>th</sup> in the UK for total aircraft movements and is the busiest general aviation airport in the market.
- 6.2 CO<sub>2</sub> ground emissions had increased by 15% due to the reliance on electrical heating and the harsh winter period, however, GAL continues to investigate the feasibility of onsite electricity generation using PV.
- 6.3 There has been a reduction in aircraft emissions of 16.6% due to the use of more modern aircraft, resulting in less fuel being used and quieter aircraft. There has also been a change in the methodology used for calculating the emissions. Unleaded fuel was introduced in April 2012 and has been very successful and usage of unleaded fuel will increase in the future.
- 6.4 Out of hours activity has reduced and is well within the agreed parameters set down in the policy. Changes to out-of-hours activity, approved by JAWG, have not yet been implemented as it has not been necessary. There was some difference in the understanding of what had actually been approved and DL agreed to report back with clarification.
- 6.5 Noise complaints had increased and it was noted that two individuals are responsible for the majority; as a consequence the data is being skewed. The underlying downward trend is likely to be related to increased use of more modern aircraft.
- 6.6 Recycling activity has grown significantly as it has been rolled out to all airport tenants.
- 6.7 In the presentation, DL reported on progress against the 2012 JAWG recommendations. Work is continuing with Down Hatherley PC regarding noise issues. The PC has a place on the consultative committee but an independent group has been set up and continues to express concern outside of the PC; the airport will continue to work with them.

**7.0 Member Questions**

- 7.2 Responding to a member question regarding the airport walks scheme, DL confirmed that walkers are protected by a 1.8m perimeter fence.
- 7.3 The reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from aircraft was welcomed. With regard to the change in methodology, a member asked if GAL is also looking at previous

years as it will be useful to be able to compare the difference in the figures using the different methodologies.

- 7.4 DL advised that the difference is currently a straight-line 2% reduction, but DEFRA is proposing to introduce a radiative forcing factor from 2013 (this is the effect of aircraft cruising at high levels in the atmosphere). This could have a significant negative impact on the figures. It was agreed that officers would work with GAL in April/May 2014 to understand the impact and consider recalibrating the 4.000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> ceiling currently set in the policy.

DL agreed to add baseline information re progress of the Green Travel Plan 2013.

- 7.3 DL advised that there had been a 10% growth in aircraft movement levels and the reduction in aircraft emissions is therefore encouraging. Future growth will involve more of the modern aircraft. In the future GAL will consider looking at the CO<sub>2</sub> calculation at more than one point during the year, although this is a time consuming and complex exercise.

## **8.0 Confirmation of next steps and process for 2014 review of the Green Policy**

- 8.1 Members agreed that a report will be taken to Overview and Scrutiny Committee for noting by Cabinet, subject to recalibration of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions being noted specifically.

## **9.0 Any other business**

No other business was discussed.

Tim Harman