

22 April 2009

**c/o London Luton Airport Operations Ltd.**

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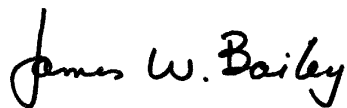
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Environmental Noise Team  
Defra  
Area 2A, Nobel House  
17 Smith Square  
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**Consultation on proposed amendments to the Environmental Noise (England) Regulations 2006**

I attach the comments of the London Luton Airport Consultative Committee, endorsed by the full Committee at our meeting on 6 April 2009, on your consultation letter and report dated 16 February 2009.

Yours sincerely



James W Bailey  
Chairman

**LLACC RESPONSE TO DEFRA CONSULTATION ON  
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL NOISE (ENGLAND)  
REGULATION 2006**

**Consultation Questions and LLACC Responses**

**Question (1)**

**Do you agree with proposed amendment to regulation 13 regarding the identification of quiet areas?**

**LLACC Response (1)**

***Yes, on the understanding that these will include consideration of nationally important quiet areas, e.g. the Chilterns, and other local quiet areas.***

Main Issue: Amendment to Regulation 14(2) (Production of consolidate noise maps)

Regulation 14(2) placed a duty on the Secretary of State no later than 1<sup>st</sup> October 2007 to compile and publish a consolidated noise map from all strategic noise maps of roads, railways, and airports. The Secretary of State has failed to carry out the duty, and proposes now to remove the duty but retain capability to compile a consolidated noise map in respect of any area from any strategic noise map. This is seen to provide a cost-effective solution which can be tailored to meet the requirements of the action planning process.

**Question (2)**

**Do you agree with the proposal to revoke the duty as regards consolidated noise maps in regulation 14(2) and to replace this with a power on the Secretary of State to produce consolidated noise maps in respect of any area?**

**LLACC Response (2)**

**Yes.**

Main Issue: Amendment to regulations 14(1) and 30 (Guidance on limit values or other criteria for the identification of priorities for action plans)

Regulation 14(1) placed a duty on the Secretary of State no later than 17<sup>th</sup> July 2007 to publish guidance setting out limit values or other criteria for the identification of priorities for action plans. The Secretary of State has failed to carry out the duty, and proposes to cancel this duty, but by modification of regulation 30 retain the capability to issue guidance if the SoS wants to at any time. It is seen that this will allow a greater variety of approaches across transport sources and urban areas and provide a more flexible system to support the action planning process.

**Question (3)**

**Do you agree with the proposal to revoke the specific duty on the Secretary of State to publish guidance in regulation 14(1) and to replace this with a general power to publish guidance?**

**LLACC Response (3)**

***No, there is a clear duty on DEFRA to produce leadership, and technical guidance on these matters to ensure appropriate criteria that can be clear, transparent, and common to England.***

**Question (4)**

**Are there any other comments relating to the proposed amendments that you would like to make?**

**LLACC Response (4)**

***None.***