

Noise metrics – Final Recommendations

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Aims of this session

- To finalise the recommendations of the noise metrics project with the Board.

Recap: Project objectives

1. Review the different metrics used for measuring and providing guidance on the management of aviation noise, and consistency in the use of these metrics
2. Consider whether there are ways to ensure better public understanding of these issues.



Key findings (1)

Noise Metrics and their communication

- No metric accurately captures noise annoyance
- Complementary metrics can enhance understanding of annoyance
- Current lack of public understanding around noise metrics
- Clear communication of noise information is crucial and significant improvements could be made across industry
- Models to produce noise contour maps are based on averaged data and do not generally use noise recording data to validate outputs.



Key findings (2)

Availability and transparency of noise data publications

- Most airports only submit noise data every five years (except for designated airports, which submit annually)
- Robust data is necessary to support effective policy development and noise management.

Standardisation of noise recording

- Lack of standardised method or best practice for noise data recording, with most recent guidelines published in 2005
- Some airports provide a temporary noise monitor for local communities but this is not a universal offer.



Key Recommendations (1)

Noise Metrics

- ICCAN supports the continued use of the L_{Aeq} based metrics currently used for noise monitoring. In addition, ICCAN recommends the use of supplementary single event metrics.

Noise Monitoring and Recording

- ICCAN recommends that best practice guidance is developed for UK airports on aviation noise recording and monitoring.
- ICCAN recommends that airports make temporary noise monitoring available to communities, upon request.



Key Recommendations (2)

Data Availability and Transparency

- ICCAN recommends that data transparency should occur at all levels. Data should be published annually, especially data that is being generated in relation to airspace change.
- ICCAN recommends that best practice guidance for noise data processing and publishing are created for UK airports.
- ICCAN recommends that the quality and accessibility of outputs should be improved. This includes developing online data presentation and developing the use of FPMCs to inform communities with updated flight movement information.
- ICCAN supports the move towards using noise envelope design to understand the noise exposure of affected communities.