

Aviation noise and health: update

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What the project will aim to achieve

This work will aim to:

1. identify and summarise the evidence linking aviation noise to public health and provide detail on the methods used in the identified studies.
2. identify evidence gaps in existing research and make suggestions regarding research that could be conducted to close these gaps.

ICCAN's overarching aim is to bring clarity to the debate on aviation noise and health.



Previous reviews of the evidence

- the WHO published eight systematic reviews on environmental noise and focused on evidence published from 2000-2015
- defra commissioned two systematic reviews published in 2019 and 2020 focusing on various types of environmental noise and range of health outcomes. This covered evidence published after the period covered in the WHO review until March 2019



Review of new and existing evidence

NatCen are conducting a rapid evidence review (REA) of:

1. existing aviation noise and health evidence in WHO and Defra reviews
2. any high-quality evidence published between April 2019 and March 2020

Research Questions

- What evidence exists about the links between health and aviation noise?
- Based on the REA, what are the key evidence gaps for research regarding links between aviation noise and health?

Search Criteria

- Population- relating to aviation noise and health in a general human population
- Exposure – aviation noise measured or modelled and expressed in decibels
- Outcome – include evidence relating to any health condition



Next steps

- w/c 29 June – first draft report and presentation of key findings
- w/c 10 August – workshop with Charlotte Clark (ARUP) and Ben Fenech (Public Health England) to discuss evidence gaps identified by NatCen and feasibility of future research
- 9 September – Board approval of project findings and suggested future research

