

**Aberdeen International Airport Consultative Committee**

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

**Present**

Alan Stewart	Chairman AIACC
Gemma Mason	AIACC Secretary
Mark Beveridge	AIAL Operations Director
Robert Paterson	AIAL Head of Operations
Kevin Douglas	AIAL Terminal Operations Manager
Lee McCann	AIAL Communications Manager
Mike Glen	AGS Head of Airspace and Noise
Neil MacGregor	Aberdeen City Council
Jim Gifford	Aberdeenshire Council
Ron McKail	Aberdeenshire Council
Andrea Barclay-Scarry	Accessibility Forum Co-Chair
Willie McPherson	British Travel Agents/Scottish Passenger Agents Association
Brian Forbes	Dyce & Stoneywood Community Council
Claudia Stuerck	NESTRANS (On behalf of P Finch)
Jeremy Wood	Passenger Representative
John Urquhart	Prosper
Chris Foy	Visit Aberdeenshire

**Apologies**

Gavin Morrison	AIAL Sustainability Manager
Keith Smith	GA (Light Aircraft / Flight Training)
Gill Al-Samarai	Aberdeen City Council
Yi-pei Chou Turvey	Aberdeenshire Council
Heather Morrell	AGCC
Iain Elrick	Bucksburn & Newhills Community Council
Keith Bannerman	Bridge of Don Community Council
Graeme Skinner	OEUK
Alun Heseltine	NATS
Paul Finch	NESTRANS

**Agenda**

1000-1015	1. Introductions (Alan Stewart)
	2. Minutes from last meeting (Alan Stewart)
1015-1035	3. Awareness – Guest presentation (Mike Glen) from AGS on noise and airspace update
1035-1130	4. Update from AIA (Mark Beveridge)
1130-1140	5. Query on Ryanair Bag sizing/guidance / thoughts?
1140-1200	6. AOB

### **Introductions (Alan Stewart)**

Alan Stewart welcomed all to the AIACC and went around the boardroom table and the screen for introductions.

### **Minutes from last meeting (Alan Stewart)**

Alan Stewart requested an update on the following action raised from the AIACC meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

#### Appointment of a new contact to represent the Heli-operators.

Mark Beveridge confirmed that this will be addressed during the upcoming Heli-operators' meetings, after which he will provide Alan Stewart with an update.

Neil MacGregor requested that attendee's full names are shown on the minutes rather than first initial, surname. Alan Stewart approved request.

### **Awareness – Guest presentation (Mike Glen) from AGS on noise and airspace update**

Mike Glen provided the committee with an overview of the Section 75 agreement, see slides for information.

In addition, Mike Glen gave a brief update on the Noise Insulation Scheme and Airspace change proposal. Further information to follow at future AIACC.

Brian Forbes commented, that on the day the survey takes place, the airfield is quiet with no flight and little noise from the East Apron area. Mike Glen replied it's an annual ambient noise survey carried out every summer and only the acoustic consultant knows when the survey will take place.

It was highlighted that if it believed that the S75 survey isn't meeting the requirements, to contact Aberdeen City Council.

Ron McKail asked about the acceptable decibel level for noise and how it compares to ambient levels. Mike Glen advised there is no set acceptable level however a full response relating to noise management will be provided to the committee in due course.

Mike Glen advised a session on noise management and the reminder of the rules will be provided at the next AIACC.

### **Update from AIA**

Mark Beveridge updated the committee on the AGS wide safety initiative "Never Walk By". The quarterly release reinforces the groups safety culture and highlights the expected safety behaviours.

An overview of recent audits was discussed, including being awarded the British Safety Councils, 5-star audit. In which there is an anticipation of a sword of honour award.

An update passenger volumes per airline YTD showed currently a -5% trend on budgeted 2025 passengers. This decline is driven by a softening in domestic travel, which is a trend currently being reported across all UK airports.

Kevin Douglas advised the committee of the upcoming winter 2025/26 aero schedule, which includes Alicante will operate 3 x weekly and along with TUI's scheduled service to Tenerife resuming twice weekly.

EasyJet's new route to CDG will launch on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October with flights scheduled on Monday's and Fridays. The weekly Geneva flight will also return December '25 through until March '26.

It was highlighted that Ryanair flights are on sale for summer 2026, which includes a third weekly flight to Krakow.

AirBaltic operating to Riga will return twice weekly in summer 2026.

Kevin Douglas informed the committee on the 12<sup>th</sup> October 2025 the EU will introduce new border checks which will be known as Entry/Exit System (EES) which is a part of its plans to modernise the border system.

The committee were provided with an overview of Self-Service Bag drop usage May to September '25. Willie McPherson mentioned that there have been times when the self-service kiosks weren't available for the first British Airways flight. Kevin Douglas asked that any issues like this be reported at the time so it can be investigated further.

The out-of-gauge project works will be completed shortly, creating space for 6 new self-service kiosks enhancing the common check in area.

An update on assisted travel confirmed Special Assistance passengers increased 26% compared to 2023. 2025 YTD, the increase by the end of September was 24% compared to the same period in 2024. The additional staff and equipment remain in place to help to continue support the demand for assisted travel.

Kevin Douglas confirmed, the assisted travel service is currently out for tender, with a start date of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 for the new contract.

An overview of customer feedback was provided to the committee. Kevin Douglas commented, if there were any queries relating to the complaints or compliments to contact him directly.

A summary of baggage delivery times indicated that the average delivery time for the first bag was 16 minutes, with the last bag delivered within 19 minutes.

Clarification was provided to the committee that Skytanking will now be known as Prime flight.

Neil MacGregor congratulated Kevin Douglas and special assistance team. The excellent service is hugely appreciated by passengers.

An update on capital projects was provided, including an insight to upcoming projects including a refreshment of F&B. An update on the development will be shared at future AIACC meetings.

Robert Paterson advised a presentation on the runway rehabilitation works will be provided at a future AIACC.

Mike Glen provided a summary of noise complaints, stating there are 17 complaints YTD which is 54% lower than 2024. Complaints have been received from various areas with Dyce accounting for 41% of complaints followed by Potterton at 17%. In general, complaints are generally spread across the day with a slight peak showing for morning period (0600-1200)

Ron McKail queried how do the noise figures compare with other airports. Mike Glen confirmed it cannot be benchmarked against other airports due to various factors.

Lee McCann advised it was Aberdeen International Airport's biggest Runway Run yet, raising £65,000 for charity.

In September, AIAL held a European first of holding a spin class on an active airfield which raised £25,000 with proceeds being split between AberNecessities and Sport Aberdeen.

The ABZ Propeller Fund returned for 2025, the committee meets four times a year and has representatives from Aberdeenshire Council, ACVO and local MSP Jackie Dunbar.

The charity partnership with AberNecessities will continue until the end of 2025, with several events scheduled across the airport campus over the next couple of months. L McCann advised preparations are underway to appoint a new charity partner for 2026/2027.

Since 2022 more than £260,000 has been raised by the Charity Management Group

#### **Query on Ryanair Bag sizing/guidance / thoughts?**

The committee had a general discussion in reference to Ryanair approved cabin baggage. Kevin Douglas answered any questions raised and will provide an overview of the airline's guidelines.

#### **AOB**

Ron McKail mentioned he recently attended the Shire Connections event and was pleased that businesses are supportive of AIAL.

Jeremy Wood questioned if the restrictions around carrying 100ml through security will be relaxed. Mark Beveridge advised there isn't a date in which the restrictions will be lifted.

Alan Stewart noted that it was great to see a charter flight arranged for Aberdeen FC fans traveling to Prague and hoped that similar flights will be available in the future.

The proposed date for the next AIACC is to be confirmed.

Alan Stewart brought the meeting to a close.