

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

27 March 2024

PRESENT:

Labour Group

Councillor S Bambrick (Chair) and Councillor M Gee (Vice-Chair)
and Councillors A Jones and G Jones.

Conservative Group

Councillors N Atkin and A Kirke.

In Attendance

Councillor A Archer
Councillor r Pearson
Councillor S Taylor
Councillor A Tilley
Councillor B Stuart
Councillor A Wheelton

OS/47 **APOLOGIES**

The Committee was informed that apologies had been received from Councillor L Mulgrew (Labour Group) and Councillor D Muller (Conservative Group).

OS/48 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meetings held on 17 January 2024 and 14 February 2024 were received by the Committee and signed by the Chair.

OS/49 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ARISING FROM ITEMS ON AGENDA**

The Committee was informed that no Declarations of Interest had been received.

OS/50 **QUESTIONS RECEIVED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 10**

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the Public had been received.

OS/51 **QUESTIONS RECEIVED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 11**

The Committee was informed that no questions from Members of the Council had been received.

MATTERS DELEGATED TO COMMITTEE

OS/52 **MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2024-2025 – 2028-2029**

The Head of Finance presented the report to the Committee and summarised the key points within the report and sought approval of the recommendation.

Councillor A Jones sought clarity regarding the level of tax base per head.

The Head of Finance informed the Committee that information regarding tax base per head calculations would be circulated following meeting.

Councillor N Atkin raised a query regarding the rescheduling of debt repayments.

The Head of Finance explained that it allowed the Council to spread repayments over a longer period of time.

RESOLVED:

The Committee noted the Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2024/25 – 2028/29, attached to the report as Appendix 1.

OS/53 **EAST MIDLANDS AIRPORT UPDATE**

The Chair introduced and welcomed the representatives from East Midlands Airport.

The representatives addressed the Committee and presented an update as follows:

2023 was the Airport's busiest year since the pandemic, with passenger numbers in the summer returning to 95% of pre covid levels. August was the busiest month of the year with 530,000 passenger choosing East Midlands Airport, with the total number of passenger hitting 2.2million by the end of August. Between September and December, the airport welcomed 620,000 passengers. 2023 had seen a drop in air cargo volumes, with global demand being affected by factors such changes to the economy and the war in Ukraine. However, the sector remained buoyant that demand would begin to increase again in the near future.

New UK security regulations are to be introduced in 2024, which will require the installation of new security search equipment that will allow passengers to leave

liquids and large electrical items in their hand luggage. New body scanners are also to be introduced, which is intended to transform the passenger and colleague experience of security at East Midlands Airport. Trials of the new security equipment had already started in the staff security channel for staff familiarisation and training.

An extension to the Security Hall meant that because of the new aviation security requirements, there was a need to change the forecourt closest to the terminal building. The airport will be making changes to the Rapid Drop Off area, the Short Stay Car Park, and the roads to make the area easier to use, and safer for pedestrians.

Zero Carbon Airports

First Carbon Neutral UK airport (2012)
Targeting net zero carbon no later than 2038
Supporting decarbonisation of entire aviation industry

Opportunity for All

The Airport wants people to share its benefits through:

Support through careers fairs, employability skills and free training and will be attending the Swadlincote job fair on 25th April.

Initiatives with schools and youth groups including Pingle Academy – GCSE business students attending Areozone 18th April for talks on Capacity planning.

Local Voices

Noise as an important priority

East Midlands Airport Community Fund has provided over £2.4m to more than 1,830 community groups since 2002.

In Derbyshire in the year from April 2023 to March 2024, the Fund supported: 39 organisations with £60,726 in community fund grants as well as, 6 Eco-Garden Projects totalling £51,304 and 9 Carbon Energy Fund Projects totalling £78,988.

Airport Community Fund

15 in South Derbyshire totalling £21,439:

Low Carbon Energy Fund

6 in South Derbyshire totalling £54,460 including:

LED floodlights at Newhall Bowls Club, Kings Newton Bowls Club, Melbourne Sporting Partners (Astro-pitches) and Melbourne Dynamo Football Club (grass pitches), Interior LED lighting replacement at Aston on Trent Primary School and Solar panels at Swarkestone Sailing Club

School Eco-garden Fund

Findern Footbath Group £9,477
Willington Primary School £10,000

Managing Aircraft Noise

The East Midlands Airport Noise Action Plan sets out the actions committed to by the airport to mitigate the impact of aircraft noise between 2024 and 2028.

Monitoring and where and how aircraft fly

The airport's noise and track keeping monitoring system enables it to monitor compliance and report on noise from aircraft and check and record the path of every aircraft arriving at or taking off from the airport.

As well as recording individual events, the systems help the airport understand trends, compare performance and provide robust data for noise modelling.

Reports on Track Keeping, Continuous Decent Approach, Continuous Climb Operations and noise events at all noise monitors are published on the airport's website and shared with operators.

Aircraft operations and noise levels can be monitored through the airport's public WebTrak tool.

Monitoring aircraft noise

6 fixed noise monitors positioned around the airport boundary.

Programme of community noise monitoring through the summer season

- 2022 Breaston
- 2023 Barrow-on-Trent and Smisby
- 2024 East Leake and Gotham planned

Opportunity to request position for community noise monitoring for summer 2025.

Noise Action Plan 2024-2028: New actions

A ban on the noisiest QC4, QC8 and QC16 rated aircraft at night.

Noise charges that incentivise quieter aircraft and Noisy Aircraft Penalty Scheme to include aircraft departing during the daytime as well as at night.

Reduction of jet aircraft training flight hours to between 08:00-12:00 and 14:00-18:00

Sound Insulation Grant Scheme re-opened to residents who received a grant more than 20 years ago.

To reflect recent inflationary pressures, we are increasing:

- The sound insulation Grant Scheme grant levels
- The contribution the airport makes to the EMA Community Fund

Future Airspace – national picture

UK airspace has changed little since the 1950's, meaning it is now inefficient and out-dated.

Airspace Modernisation Strategy (AMS) forms part of the Government's Jet Zero Strategy.

As part of the AMS, all main UK airports are required to redesign their airspace under 7,000ft with NATS modernising the network above.

The Airspace Change Organising Group (ACOG) was set up in 2019 under the direction of the DfT and CAA to coordinate the national programme and create a coordinated Masterplan for airspace change.

The aim of the AMS is to deliver quicker, quieter and cleaner journeys.

Future Airspace – process

Required to follow the CAA's CAP1616 process for airspace change.

Stage 1 (completed 2020) – Statement of Need, Design Principles created through stakeholder engagement.

Stage 2 (completed November 2023) – options development informed by two rounds of stakeholder engagement and refined from longlist down to a shortlist of individual options.

Stage 3 will include public consultation on the airport's refined options, currently expected 2025 (subject to change in line with the wider AMS).

Member raised questions that included zero carbon emissions for aircrafts, noise monitoring positions, expansion of East Midlands Airport, the impact of world events and local employment opportunities.

The East Midlands Airport Representative informed the Committee that the target for carbon neutral aircraft was 2050, that noise monitoring was carried out under the flight paths and underneath take off positions. The East Midlands Airport Representative clarified that there were no plans to increase the number of terminals or runways at the airport but alterations were underway to increase the capacity of passengers up to 6 million and that cargo would grow and ways to accommodate that would be looked at in the future. It was confirmed that world events always impacted on cargo flights and that over the years there had been many peaks and troughs. The Committee was informed that the airport was working on recruitment which included a jobs fair, seasonal job opportunities and an Airport Academy course.

The Chair thanked the East Midlands Airport Representatives for attending the Committee meeting.

OS/54 **COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME**

The Strategic Director (Corporate Resources) presented the report to the Committee.

The Chair informed the Committee that the next meeting would be a scoping meeting to consider items for the next year's Work Programme.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee considered and approved the updated work programme.

OS/56 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AS AMENDED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**

RESOLVED:

That, in accordance with Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the Meeting as it would be likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that there would be disclosed exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Act indicated in brackets after each item.

OS/57 **EXEMPT QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO 11**

The Committee was informed that no exempt questions from Members of the Council had been received.

The Meeting terminated at 18:55 hours.

COUNCILLOR S BAMBRICK

CHAIR