



Department for Transport (DfT)

Aviation Noise Attitudes Survey (ANAS)

2023-24

Peer Review

Prepared by

Dr Hannah Devine-Wright

Placewise Ltd

&

Mary Ellen Eagan

ME Eagan Consulting

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides the findings of an independent peer review of CAP 3131 – Aviation Noise Attitudes Survey (ANAS) 2023-24. ANAS was commissioned from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) by the Department for Transport (DfT). ANAS builds on earlier noise attitudes surveys, such as the Survey of Noise Attitudes (SoNA 2014). The ANAS study provides evidence of attitudes to aviation noise around airports in the UK.
- 1.2 The CAA commissioned Placewise Ltd (PW) and Mary Eagan Consulting (MEE) to undertake an independent peer review of CAP 3131 - ANAS 2023-24. The comments set out below provide the outcome of this peer review which included reviewing CAP 3131 and Ipsos UK (June 2025) Technical Report, acknowledging Bryson Purson Social Research (BPSR) Report on the review of the statistical syntax for the analysis of the ANAS, and addressing feedback from the ANAS Peer Review team.

2.0 The Review

- 2.1 PW was commissioned to review the robustness and appropriateness of the social science including the design of the survey, the sampling approach, the extent and quality of data collected, and the appropriateness of conclusions reached based on the approach to data analysis. MEE was commissioned to review noise aspects of the peer review, including evaluating noise modelling protocols, assessment of noise metrics, and interpreting dose-response statistical analyses and outcomes for consistency with other similar studies. The reviewers were presented with a draft of the report which they independently reviewed. Following their independent review, the reviewers have collaborated to produce this combined Review.
- 2.2 The aim of the Review was to assess the effectiveness of the following elements:
- i. The sampling approach, and assumptions relating to this, given availability of information and data.
 - ii. The survey design, including phrasing of questions, response options and questionnaire length to meet the research aims.
 - iii. Whether the noise modelling and the construct of any noise metrics was consistent with current standards/best practice.
 - iv. Whether use of the noise data in the statistical analysis was robust.
 - v. Whether information was presented in a clear manner.
 - vi. Any recommendations, arising from the review, for approaching future research in this area.
- 2.3 The peer reviewers recommended additional statistical analyses to reflect modifications of sample selection. The additional analysis included the development of revised exposure response functions for N65.
- 2.4 The reviewers raised several issues with the authors related to the clarity of presentation and typographical issues.
- 2.5 The reviewers made suggestions regarding documents to be referenced, including additional information on the use of the push-to-web survey methodology, current policy aims, and global trends in annoyance.
- 2.6 The reviewers addressed additional comments of the ANAS Peer Review team.

3 Overall Conclusion

3.1 PW and MEE have reviewed the report entitled 'Aviation Noise Attitudes Survey' (ANAS) 2023, CAP 3131.

3.2 A range of issues were explored as part of this review, including sample size and methodology, statistical models, consistency with international studies, and presentation of findings.

The reviewers are satisfied that:

- i. Assumptions and sampling approach were appropriate.
- ii. The survey design was appropriate and consistent with current standards/best practices.
- iii. The noise modelling and the construct of noise metrics was consistent with current standards/best practice.
- iv. Following the statistical refinement, the use of noise data in the statistical analysis was robust.
- v. The development of revised exposure response functions for N65 improved the dose-response relationship to the underlying data.
- vi. Information is presented in a clear manner.
- vii. The additional references supported the robustness of the conclusions.

3.3 Overall, the reviewers are satisfied that the research undertaken for CAP 3131 was robust.

3.4 It is, therefore, the view of the peer reviewers that the results and conclusions of CAP 3131 can be used as a basis for the further development of policy in this area.
