

# Airspace information: transparency about airspace use and aircraft movements

## NATS

Currently undertaking this activity

Partially undertaking this activity

Not currently undertaking/not applicable to airport

Information provision/data type	Fulfills CAA/Air Navigation Guidance 2017	Additional comments	Link to webpages that contain this information
Runway utilisation and operations		Runway utilisation data may be obtained directly from the 13 UK airports NATS provides air traffic control services to.	
Standard Instrument Departure (SID) utilisation		Standard Instrument Departure (SID) utilisation data may be obtained directly from the 13 UK airports NATS provides air traffic control services to.	
Arrivals data		Arrivals data may be obtained directly from the 13 UK airports NATS provides air traffic control services to.	
Continuous Descent Approach (CDA) & Continuous Climb Operations (CCO)		<p>NATS led the launch of the Sustainable Aviation Continuous Descent Operations (CDO) campaign.</p> <p>CDA and CCO data may be obtained directly from the 13 UK airports NATS provides air traffic control services to.</p>	<p><a href="https://nats.aero/blog/2015/08/cleaner-quieter-and-smarter-continuous-descent-campaign-delivers-tangible-improvements/">https://nats.aero/blog/2015/08/cleaner-quieter-and-smarter-continuous-descent-campaign-delivers-tangible-improvements/</a></p>
Flight tracking & tools		NATS provides live flight tracking information via its freely available app Airspace Explorer. Airspace Explorer is a stripped-down version of a more comprehensive app used internally at NATS for situational awareness and operational information. NATS decided to release Airspace Explorer, as it was thought it might be of interest to the general public and help explain how UK Airspace is structured and flights are operated. The app provides information on flights and airports as well as information on UK airspace. The app provides near real time indications of numbers and types of operations at any airport being viewed.	<p><a href="https://www.nats.aero/ae-home/">https://www.nats.aero/ae-home/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.nats.aero/news/videos-imagery/airspace-plus-videos/">https://www.nats.aero/news/videos-imagery/airspace-plus-videos/</a></p>

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		Airspace+ is a web-based system NATS has produced to create visualisations of the air traffic in UK airspace. NATS uses Airspace+ primarily as an awareness and education tool which helps to explain issues related to Air Traffic Management.	
Aircraft Traffic Movements		Data for total flights handled in the UK, flights handled by centre and flights handled by airport from 2000-2015 are published online.  More recent traffic statistics are published online in NATS' Operations Update.	<a href="https://www.nats.aero/news/facts-stats-reports/">https://www.nats.aero/news/facts-stats-reports/</a>  <a href="https://www.nats.aero/news/customer-report/">https://www.nats.aero/news/customer-report/</a>
Night quota count		Information on Night Quota Counts may be obtained directly from the 13 UK airports NATS provides air traffic control services to.	
Slot allocation, transfers & sales		N/A	
Air Traffic Control Practices		Information on Air Traffic Control practices and procedures may be obtained directly from the 13 UK airports NATS provides air traffic control services to.	
Weather-related conditions		NATS have published an article on how bad weather can affect Air Traffic Control operations.	<a href="https://nats.aero/blog/2018/01/strong-wind-affect-air-traffic-control/">https://nats.aero/blog/2018/01/strong-wind-affect-air-traffic-control/</a>
Aircraft types used by airlines		To help stakeholders better understand the reality of aircraft flying overhead, NATS have produced a table with video clips of aircraft of different types at different heights. The aim of these clips is to be illustrative rather than scientific, as the noise experienced from an overflight will depend on a range of factors including how directly overhead the flight is, the weather, background noise and local environment.	<a href="https://www.nats.aero/environment/noise-and-emissions/">https://www.nats.aero/environment/noise-and-emissions/</a>
Airline operators		Information on airline operators may be obtained directly from the 13 UK airports NATS provides air traffic control services to.	

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Airline route networks/destinations (including changes)		Information on airline route networks and their destinations may be obtained directly from the 13 UK airports NATS provides air traffic control services to.	
Airline Standard Operational Procedures		Information on airline Standard Operational Procedures may be obtained directly from the 13 UK airports NATS provides air traffic control services to.	
Historic comparisons of route networks flown		Historic comparisons of route networks flown may be obtained directly from the 13 UK airports NATS provides air traffic control services to.	
League tables of airline operational performance		Information on airline operational performance leagues may be obtained directly from the 13 UK airports NATS provides air traffic control services to.	
Data on operations outside of normal operating hours		Data on operations outside of normal operating hours may be obtained directly from the 13 UK airports NATS provides air traffic control services to.	
Airport Consultative Committee (ACC)		NATS is involved in numerous local airport consultative committees (Heathrow, Gatwick, Luton, Stansted, London City).	<a href="https://www.nats.aero/environment/noise-and-emissions/">https://www.nats.aero/environment/noise-and-emissions/</a>
Airport and Government noise forums/boards		NATS is involved in noise forums/boards such as Gatwick's Noise Management Board and Heathrow's Noise and Airspace Community Forum.  NATS also attends the DfT's Airspace and Noise Engagement Group (ANEG)	<a href="https://www.nats.aero/environment/noise-and-emissions/">https://www.nats.aero/environment/noise-and-emissions/</a>
Community noise reports		NATS publish annual factsheets on each of the 13 UK airport NATS provides air traffic control services to. Each fact sheet contains information on the different types of ATC services that NATS provide, annual flight movements and its destinations.	<a href="https://www.nats.aero/news/facts-stats-reports/">https://www.nats.aero/news/facts-stats-reports/</a>
Community relations events		NATS engages with local communities and other interested parties (including but not limited to elected officials, airspace users) on the	<a href="https://www.nats.aero/environment/noise-and-emissions/">https://www.nats.aero/environment/noise-and-emissions/</a>

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		<p>potential to mitigate the adverse impact of changes to operations. This takes various forms such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regular briefings and Q&amp;A sessions with local and national elected officials</li> <li>- Commissioned social research to more fully understand community views</li> </ul> <p>NATS commissions three annual surveys to more fully understand the views of the public (national sample), MPs and businesses. There is one public survey, one survey of MPs and one survey of businesses per year. These polls cover a range of issues related to airspace modernisation and noise impacts.</p> <p>NATS is leading a task to explore best practice in community engagement in relation to airspace modernisation through ICAO CAEP's Working Group 2 (Airports and Operations). This task is looking at global examples of good practice in community engagement to learn how better to engage communities in the UK and understand their information and consultation needs.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.nats.aero/news/public-pressure-grows-on-aviation-industry-to-act-on-climate-change/">https://www.nats.aero/news/public-pressure-grows-on-aviation-industry-to-act-on-climate-change/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/Pages/Community-engagement-for-aviation-environmental-management.aspx">https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/Pages/Community-engagement-for-aviation-environmental-management.aspx</a></p>
Noise Action Plan (NAP)		N/A	
Noise & Track keeping performance (NTK)		NTK data may be obtained directly from the 13 UK airports NATS provides air traffic control services to.	
Noise Contour Mapping		Information on noise contour mapping may be obtained from the 13 UK airports NATS provides air traffic control services to.	
Noise complaints data, reports and handling		The NATS community engagement team regularly respond to enquiries about possible changes to flight patterns, perceived abnormal operations and other queries from members of the public, elected officials as well as airport operations and complaints handling teams. These investigations are carried out on an as required basis.	<p><a href="https://www.nats.aero/environment/noise-and-emissions/">https://www.nats.aero/environment/noise-and-emissions/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.nats.aero/contact/">https://www.nats.aero/contact/</a></p>

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Changes to London Luton Airport arrivals routes		<p>Members of the public wishing to contact NATS with an enquiry or complaint can do so via a contact form or email.</p> <p>In February 2022 London Luton Airport and NATS introduced changes to arrival routes into London Luton Airport. The aim was to separate the Luton and Stansted arrival streams.</p> <p>NATS is currently supporting LLA's public surgeries to answer enquires from the members of the public about the airspace change.</p>	<a href="https://airspacechange.caa.co.uk/PublicProposalArea?plD=51">https://airspacechange.caa.co.uk/PublicProposalArea?plD=51</a>
Information on permanent and temporary Airspace Change including trials		<p>Permanent changes to airspace and or procedures which affect flight paths are publicly notified via the NATS.aero website. Since January 2018, most airspace changes are required to be consulted upon via the CAA Citizen Space Portal as well as being published on the CAA Airspace Change Portal. The information is designed to be accessible to laypersons, particularly if there are noise impacts to communities on the ground.</p> <p>The Swanwick Airspace Improvement Programme - Airspace Deployment 6 (ACP-2018-65) initial implementation has now completed. The ACP is now at Stage 7 (Post Implementation Review) of the CAP1616 process. The current status of the ACP and information regarding all the previous stages can be found on the CAA's airspace change portal.</p>	<a href="https://www.nats.aero/environment/consultations/">https://www.nats.aero/environment/consultations/</a> <a href="https://consultations.airspacechange.co.uk/">https://consultations.airspacechange.co.uk/</a> <a href="https://airspacechange.caa.co.uk/">https://airspacechange.caa.co.uk/</a>