Corporate Communications

External Information Services



31 July 2015

EIR Reference: E0002246

Dear XXXX

I am writing in respect of your request of 22 February 2015 for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), and I am sorry that you have had to wait so long for our response. As you are aware, a fire near the CAA's office in London on 1 April affected our access to the data necessary to answer your request, which is held on a server in Australia. I am pleased to say that our access has been restored and we are now able to respond to your request.

Your request was:

Please state the total number of aircraft passing over any part of the area shown in the attached map for the time periods specified below.

At this stage please provide the information irrespective of the direction of the aircraft, their height or the time of day, though I may request such information subsequently.

Please provide the information in numerical format (i.e. actual numbers), not graphically.

The time periods are [as revised by email on 9 April 2015]:

- 1. Between 14 June and 25 August 2014.
- 2. Between 14 June and 25 August 2013.
- 3. From 13 November 2014 to the latest date for which data is available in 2015.
- 4. From 13 November 2013 to the same date as 3 above in 2014.

Having considered your request in line with the provisions of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, we are able to provide the information below.

To answer your query we have defined a rectangular area as illustrated on the attached map, which reflects as far as possible the area shown on the map provided in your original request of 22 February 2015.

To keep the analysis manageable we have restricted the end dates for the periods defined in 3 and 4 above to 30 April 2015 and 30 April 2014 respectively. Please also note that the change to procedures made by NATS which you referred to in your email of 9 April 2015

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(that affects aircraft departing Heathrow on the Compton route to the west when the airport is on easterly operations) took place on 27 June 2014, not 14 June as stated in your email. We have therefore revised the start dates for 1 and 2 to reflect this. Further details of the NATS procedural change can be found at: http://www.nats.aero/news/statement-nats-takes-steps-improve-information-airports-changes-air-traffic-control/.

The total number of Heathrow movements passing over any part of the area requested is as follows:

Period	Number of aircraft
27 June to 25 August 2014	8,435
27 June to 25 August 2013	8,080
13 November 2014 to 30 April 2015	23,200
13 November 2013 to 30 April 2014	21,596

If you are not satisfied with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you should approach the CAA in writing at:-

Caroline Chalk
Head of External Information Services
Civil Aviation Authority
Aviation House
Gatwick Airport South
Gatwick
RH6 0YR

caroline.chalk@caa.co.uk

The CAA has a formal internal review process for dealing with appeals or complaints in connection with requests under the Environmental Information Regulations. The key steps in this process are set in the attachment.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner at:-

Information Commissioner's Office FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow SK9 5AF www.ico.gov.uk/complaints.aspx

If you wish to request further information from the CAA, please use the form on the CAA website at http://www.caa.co.uk/application.aspx?catid=286&pagetype=65&appid=24.

Yours sincerely

Mark Stevens

External Response Manager

CAA INTERNAL REVIEW & COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

- The original case to which the appeal or complaint relates is identified and the case file is made available;
- The appeal or complaint is allocated to an Appeal Manager, the appeal is acknowledged and the details of the Appeal Manager are provided to the applicant;
- The Appeal Manager reviews the case to understand the nature of the appeal or complaint, reviews the actions and decisions taken in connection with the original case and takes account of any new information that may have been received. This will typically require contact with those persons involved in the original case and consultation with the CAA Legal Department;
- The Appeal Manager concludes the review and, after consultation with those involved with the case, and with the CAA Legal Department, agrees on the course of action to be taken;
- The Appeal Manager prepares the necessary response and collates any information to be provided to the applicant;
- The response and any necessary information is sent to the applicant, together with information about further rights of appeal to the Information Commissioners Office, including full contact details.

Layout of CAA Ascot rectangular zone

