

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

4 October 2018  
EIR Reference: E0003935

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request of 25 September 2018, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Your request:

*'Could I please request that you send me charts showing all aircraft movements for aircraft departing from Gatwick Airport to the west (westerly departures) for the last ten years, from roughly 2008 to 2018 or as close as possible. (maps to show at least the area from Gatwick across to Alfold, Surrey GU6 8HN).'*

Our response:

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

Please find enclosed diagrams showing the general pattern of Gatwick westerly departures in the form of track density diagrams, which have been generated using the Gatwick Airport Noise and Track Keeping system. These diagrams are used to illustrate where the majority of aircraft fly and in particular, to compare and contrast possible changes in flight tracks over time, in this case between 2010 and 2018.

Due to the significant amount of data involved, it is impractical to display all departure flight tracks for an entire calendar year on each diagram. The enclosed charts therefore show all westerly departures over the four-month period, 1 June and 30 September in each year, which is generally the busiest four-month period of the year at Gatwick. For reference, each diagram also shows the location of postcode GU6 8HN.

Please note that the Gatwick Noise and Track Keeping system does not contain flight track data prior to 1 April 2010. We are therefore unable to provide equivalent diagrams for 2008 and 2009. Whilst the CAA does separately hold other flight path information for periods prior to 2010 at Gatwick, it would need to be manipulated in order to display it in a similar format to that provided for 2010 to 2018. This would not be a straightforward task and would

**Civil Aviation Authority**

Aviation House Gatwick Airport South Gatwick RH6 0YR [www.caa.co.uk](http://www.caa.co.uk)

Email: [foi.requests@caa.co.uk](mailto:foi.requests@caa.co.uk)

require significant processing of the underlying flight path data. Since we do not currently hold the information being requested for 2008 and 2009 we are not obliged to provide you with this information under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) and Regulation 12(4)(a) applies.

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](mailto: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

<https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>

If you wish to request further information from the CAA, please use the form on the CAA website at <http://publicapps.caa.co.uk/modalapplication.aspx?appid=24>.

Yours sincerely



Jade Fitzgerald  
Information Rights Officer

## **CAA INTERNAL REVIEW & COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE**

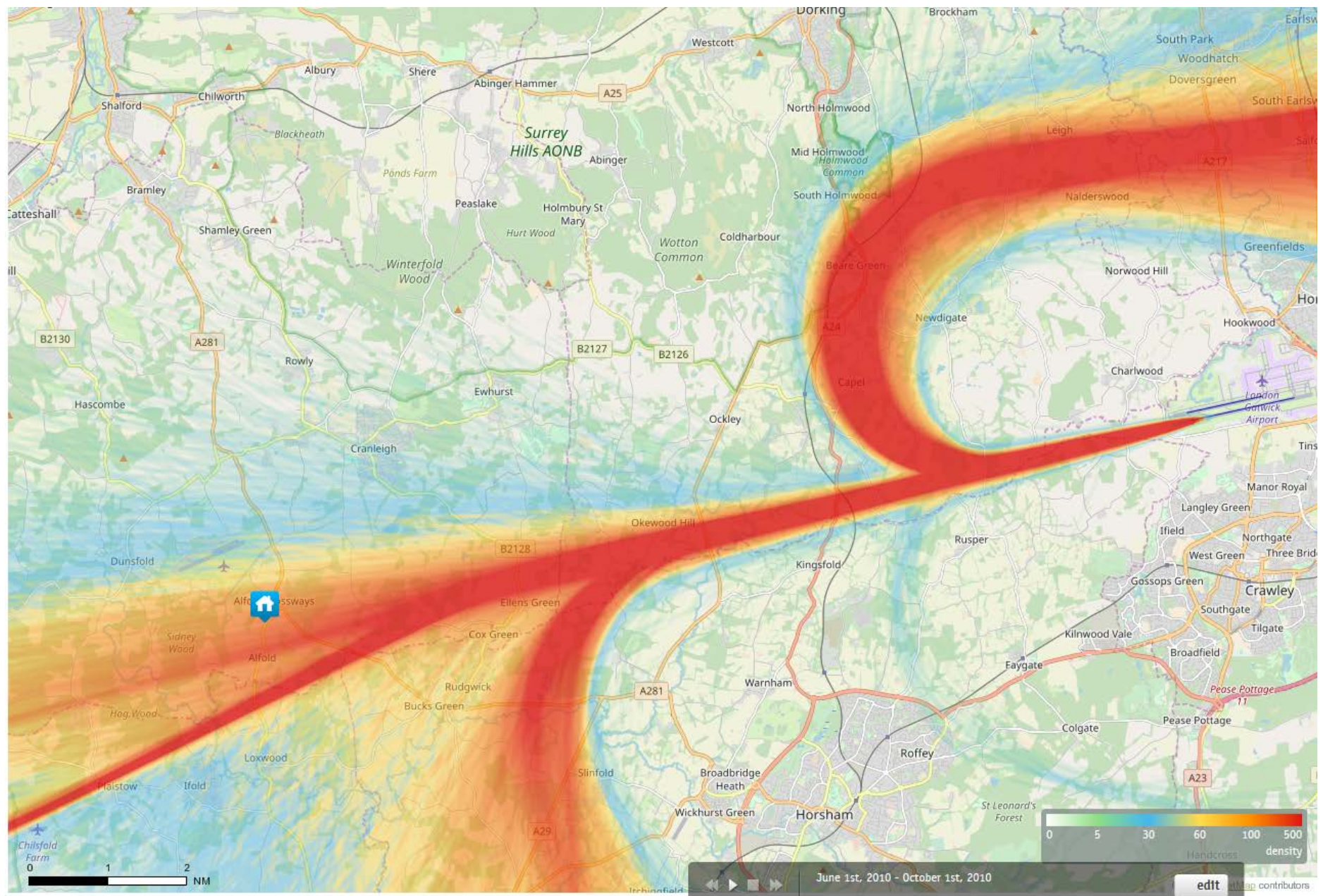
- The original case to which the appeal or complaint relates is identified and the case file is made available;
- The appeal or complaint is allocated to an Appeal Manager, the appeal is acknowledged and the details of the Appeal Manager are provided to the applicant;
- The Appeal Manager reviews the 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.

**Regulation 12 of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004**

- (1) Subject to paragraphs (2), (3) and (9), a public authority may refuse to disclose environmental information requested if—
- (a) an exception to disclosure applies under paragraphs (4) or (5); and
  - (b) in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exception outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.
- (2) A public authority shall apply a presumption in favour of disclosure.
- (3) To the extent that the information requested includes personal data of which the applicant is not the data subject, the personal data shall not be disclosed otherwise than in accordance with regulation 13.
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(a), a public authority may refuse to disclose information to the extent that—
- (a) it does not hold that information when an applicant's request is received;
  - (b) the request for information is manifestly unreasonable;
  - (c) the request for information is formulated in too general a manner and the public authority has complied with regulation 9;
  - (d) the request relates to material which is still in the course of completion, to unfinished documents or to incomplete data; or
  - (e) the request involves the disclosure of internal communications
- 5) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(a), a public authority may refuse to disclose information to the extent that its disclosure would adversely affect—
- (a) international relations, defence, national security or public safety;
  - (b) the course of justice, the ability of a person to receive a fair trial or the ability of a public authority to conduct an inquiry of a criminal or disciplinary nature;
  - (c) intellectual property rights;
  - (d) the confidentiality of the proceedings of that or any other public authority where such confidentiality is provided by law;
  - (e) the confidentiality of commercial or industrial information where such confidentiality is provided by law to protect a legitimate economic interest;
  - (f) the interests of the person who provided the information where that person—
    - (i) was not under, and could not have been put under, any legal obligation to supply it to that or any other public authority;
    - (ii) did not supply it in circumstances such that that or any other public authority is entitled apart from these Regulations to disclose it; and
    - (iii) has not consented to its disclosure; or
  - (g) the protection of the environment to which the information relates.

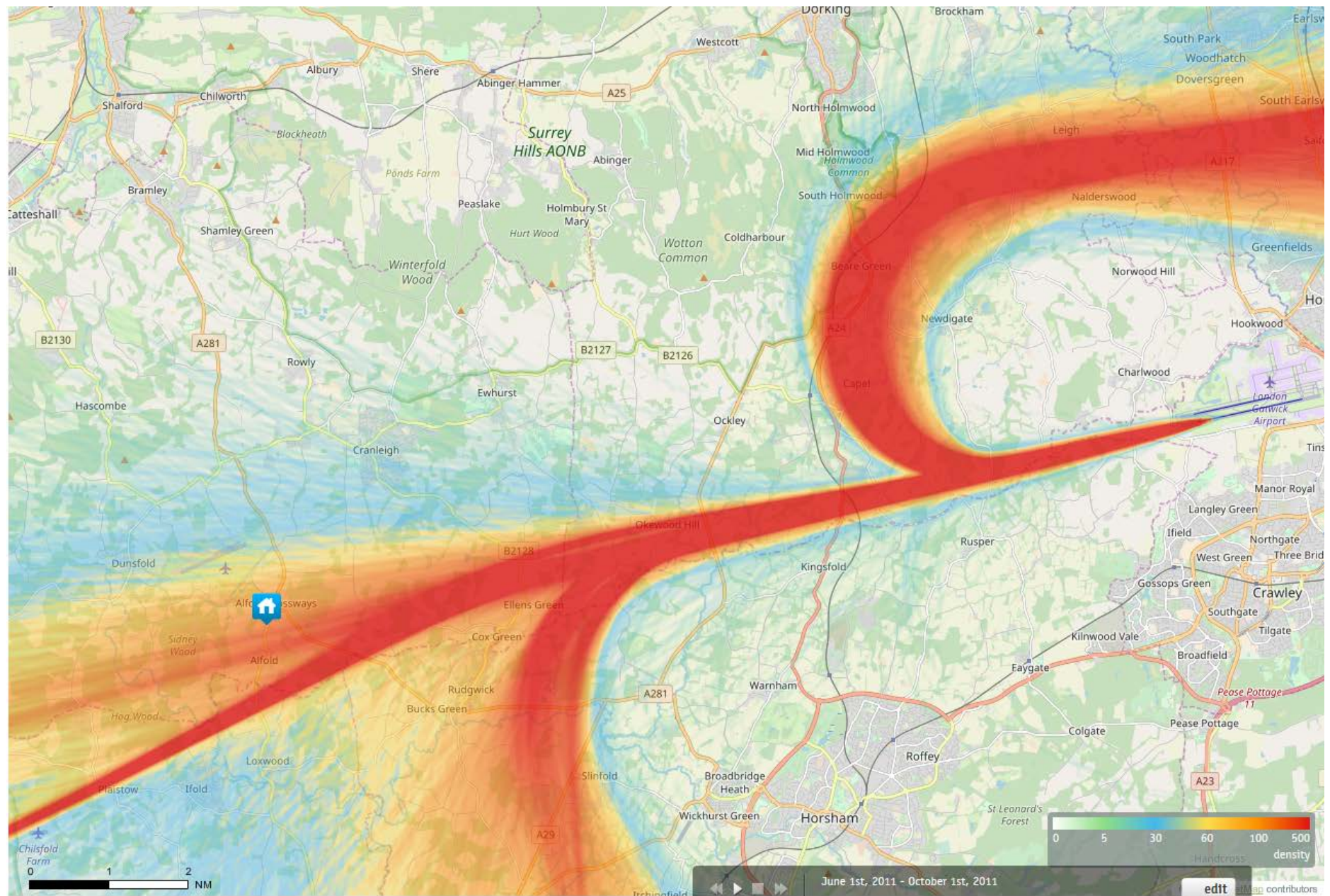


Gatwick westerly departure track density diagram, 1 June to 30 September 2010

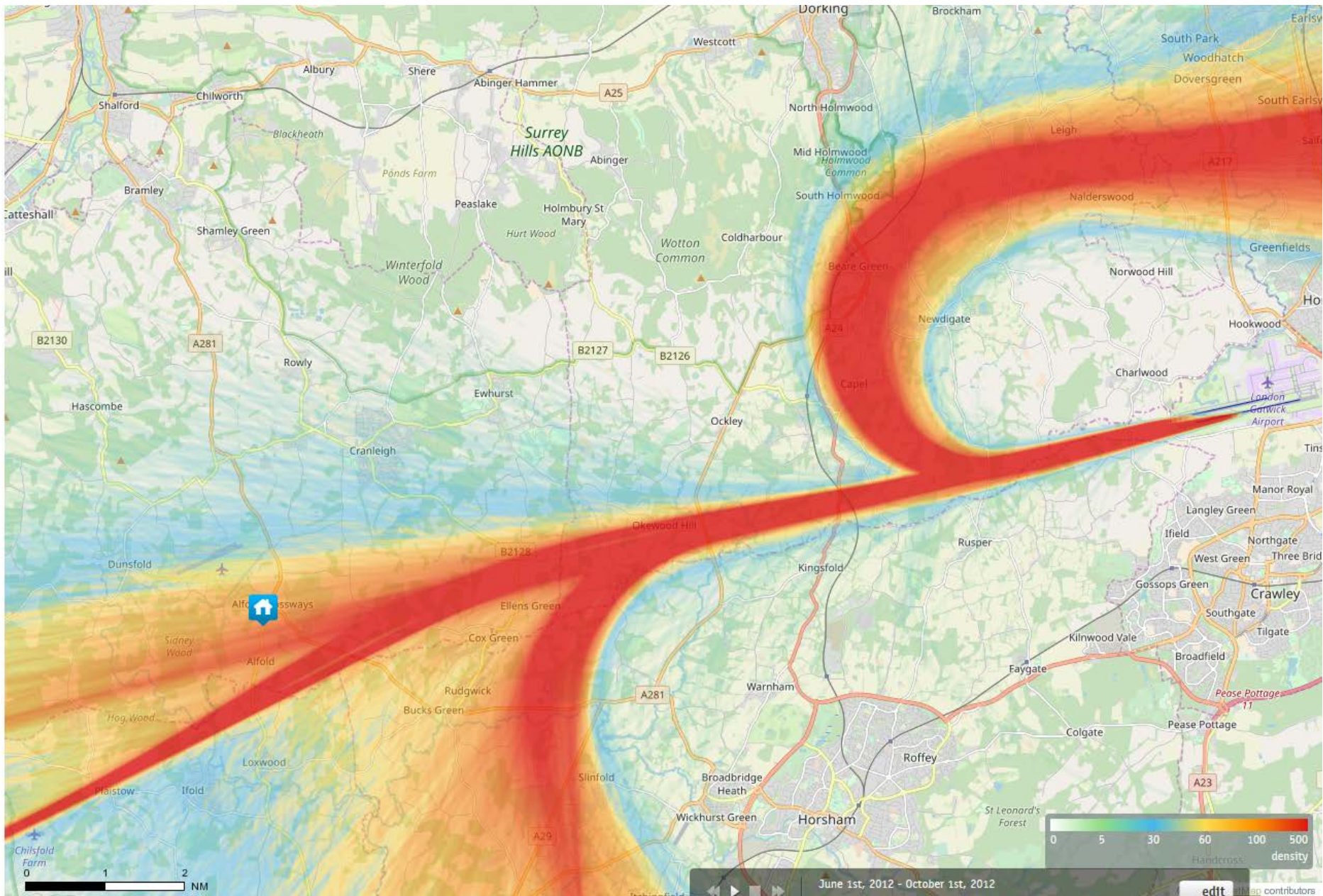




Gatwick westerly departure track density diagram, 1 June to 30 September 2011

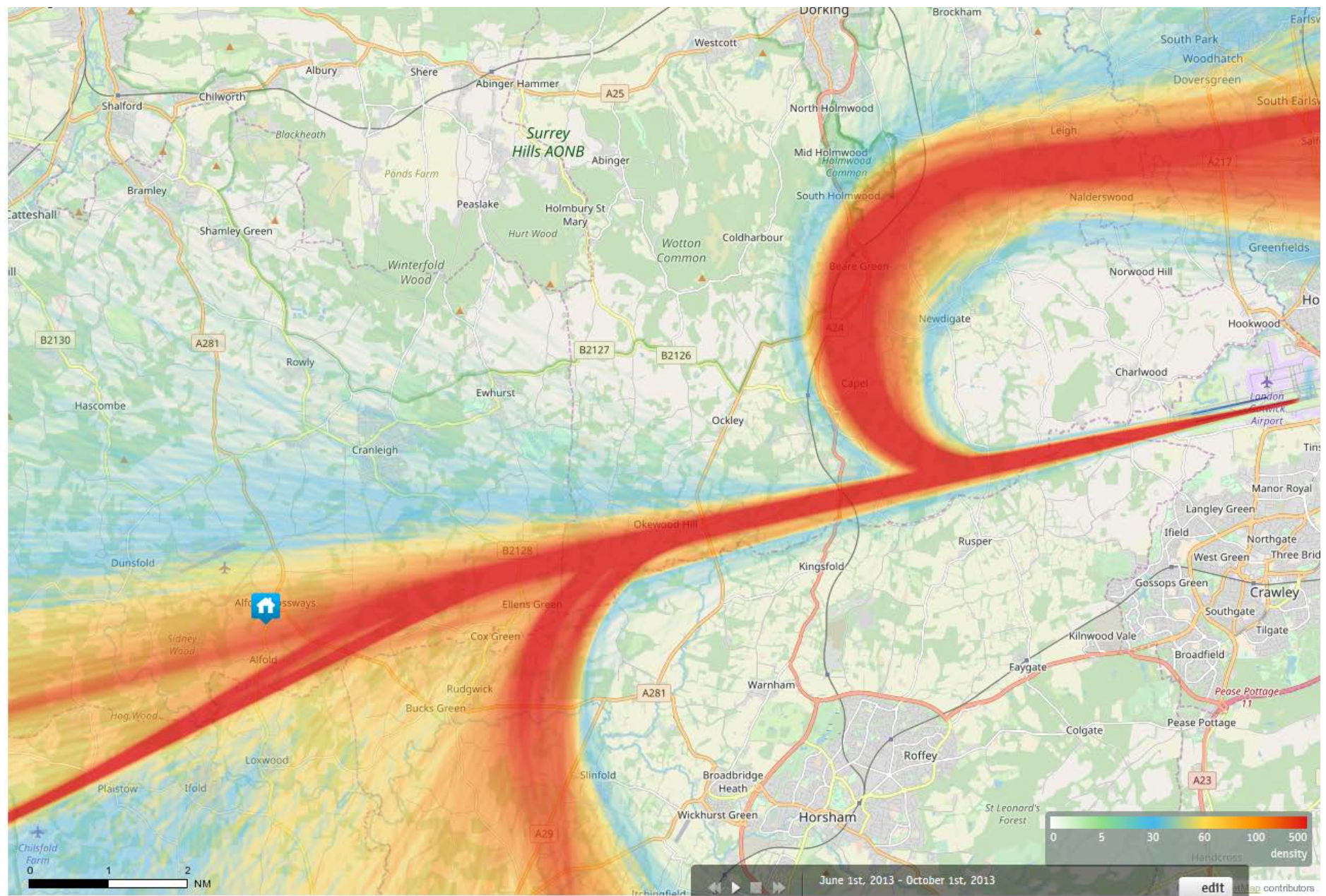






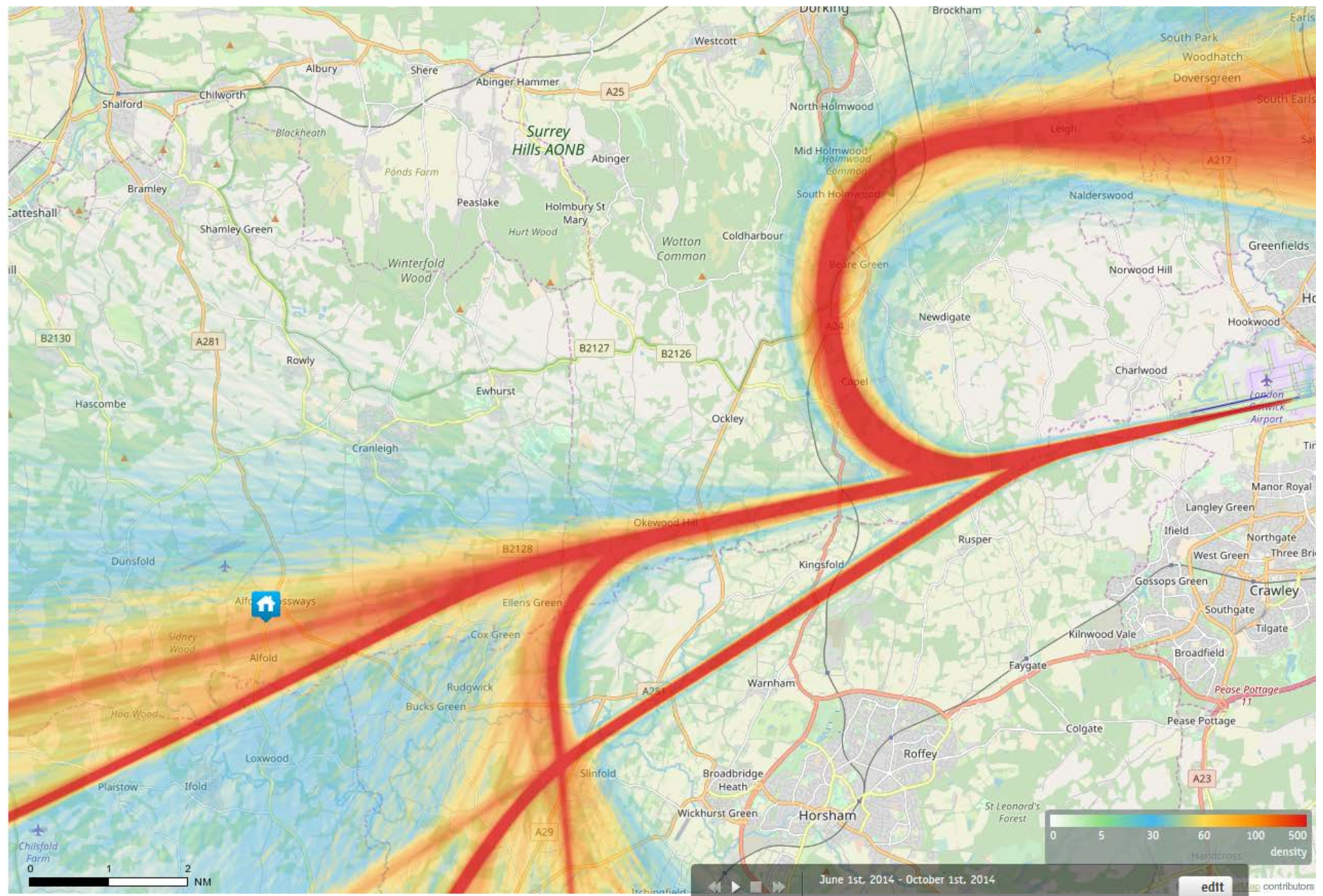


Gatwick westerly departure track density diagram, 1 June to 30 September 2013



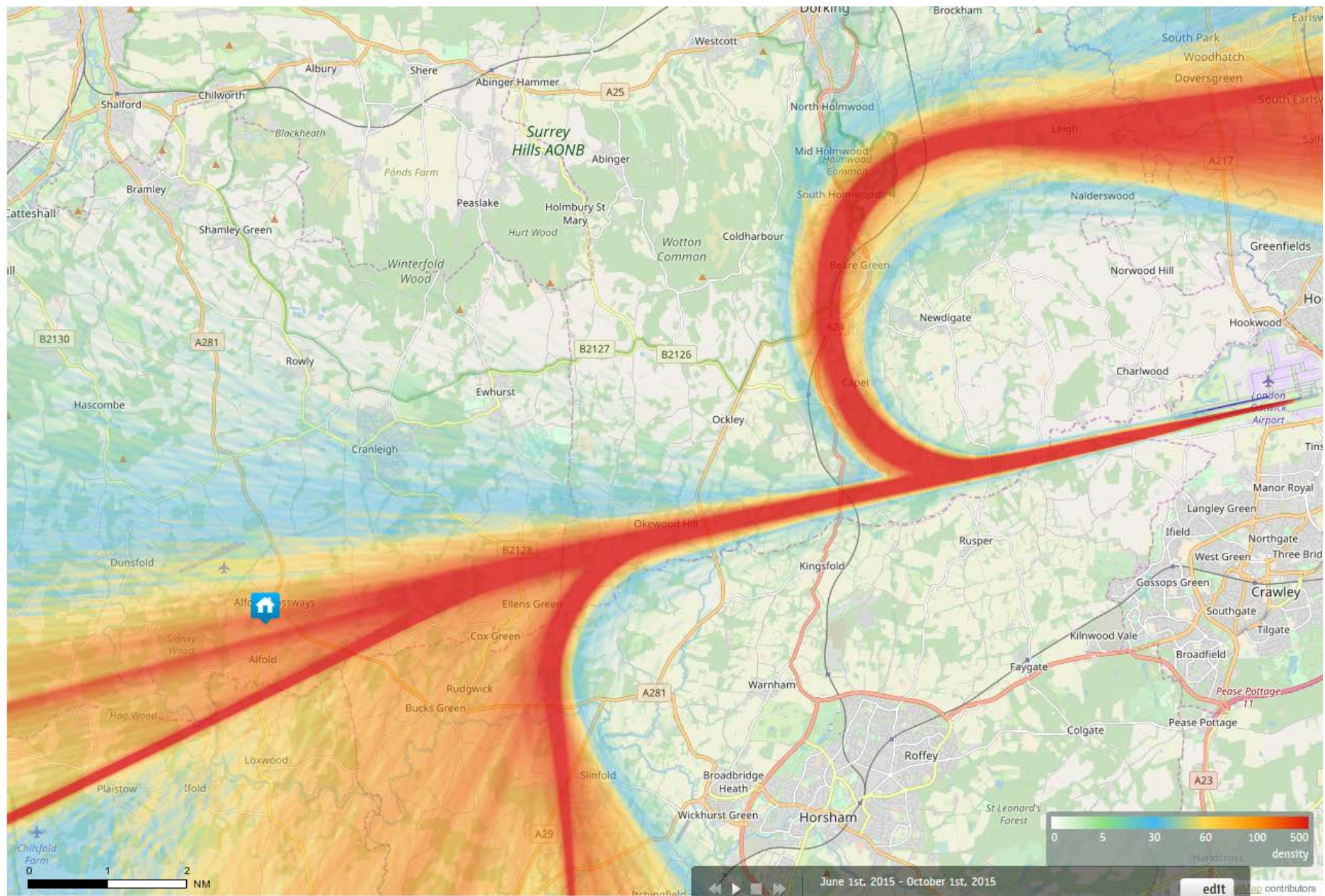


Gatwick westerly departure track density diagram, 1 June to 30 September 2014



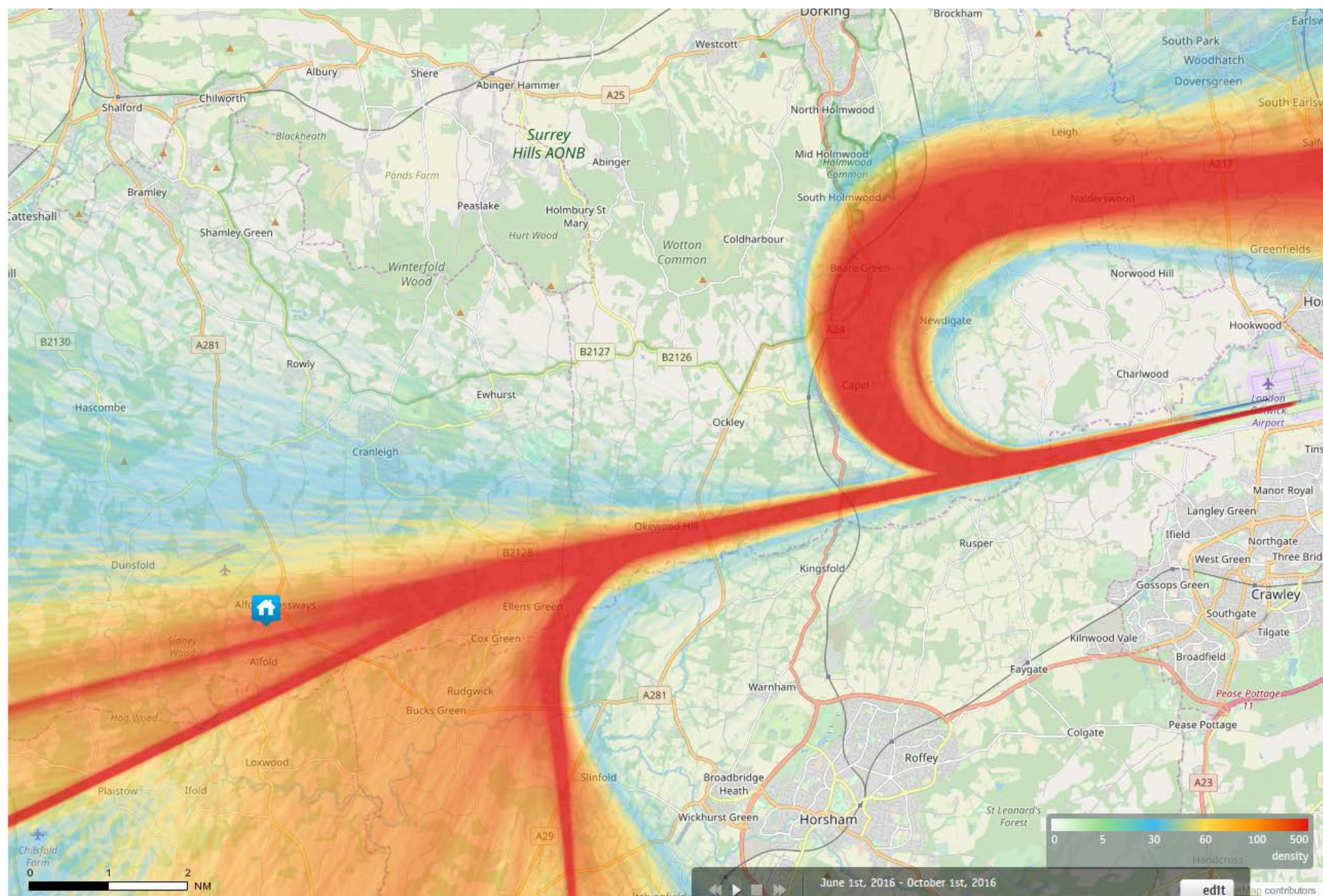


Gatwick westerly departure track density diagram, 1 June to 30 September 2015



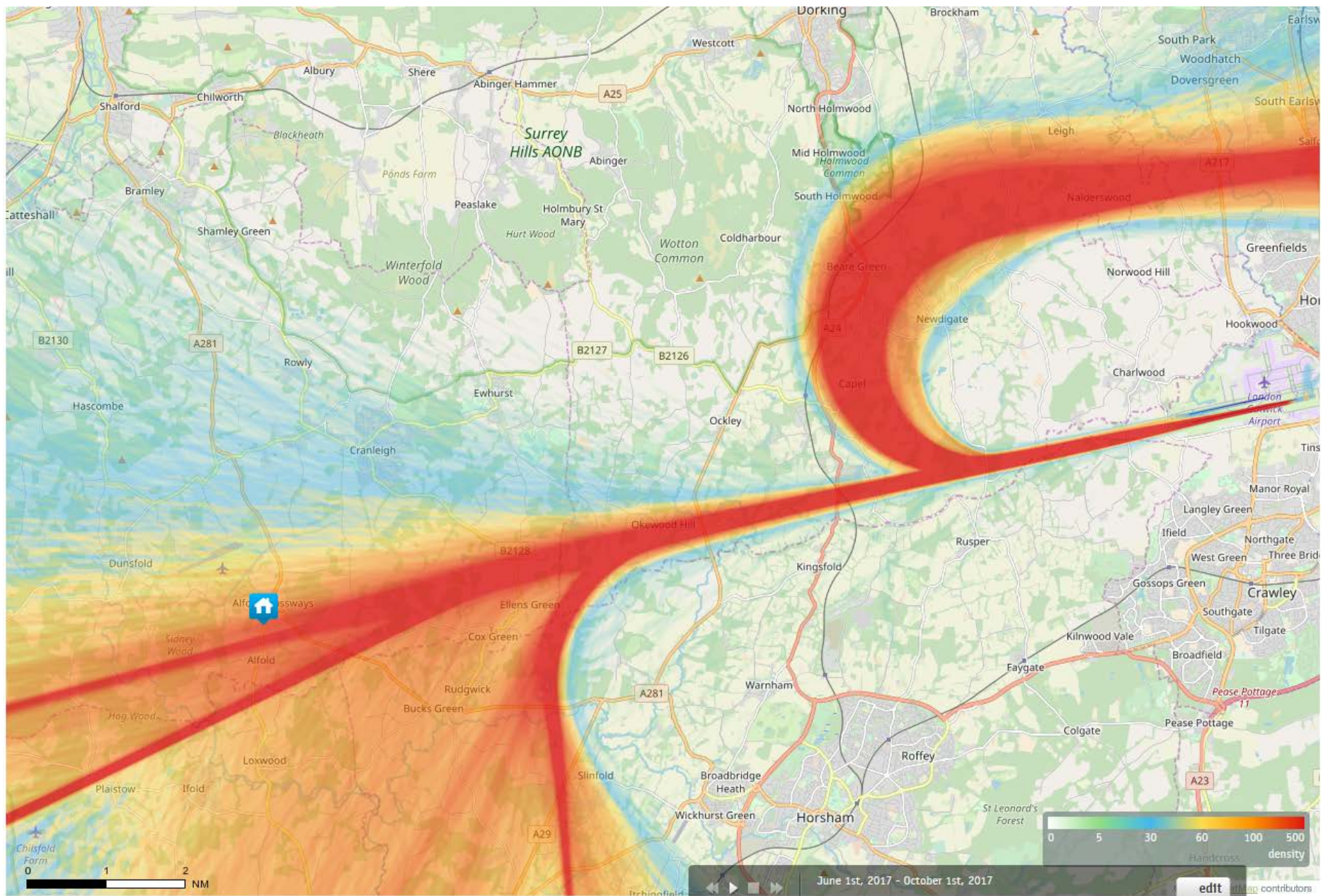


Gatwick westerly departure track density diagram, 1 June to 30 September 2016





Gatwick westerly departure track density diagram, 1 June to 30 September 2017





Gatwick westerly departure track density diagram, 1 June to 30 September 2018

