

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

7 February 2017
EIR Reference: E0003054

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing in respect of your request of 15 January 2017 and further request of 18 January 2017, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Your request:

'Please could you let me have all data with regard to night noise contours at Gatwick, Stanstead and Heathrow in the last 5 years. I am particularly interested in maps showing contours in 3db increments from 35db upwards.'

'Please could you also pass me correspondence with the Department for Transport on the night noise consultation that has just been released by dft concerning the night noise quota at Gatwick.'

Further request:

'I request maps that the show noise contours in the period from 2011 in 3db graduation from 35 db broken down by Season and by month in the summer season for Gatwick.'

Our response:

Having considered your request in line with the provisions of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, we are able to provide the information below. Where the information you have requested is already accessible via other means we have provided the relevant web link.

We have taken the first part of your original request and your subsequent request to mean any noise contour maps produced by the CAA that cover aircraft movements between 2011 and 2016 for any part of the time period 2300-0700 (local time) at Heathrow, Gatwick or Stansted airports.

Please note that L_{night} noise maps produced for the 8-hour *annual* average night (2300-0700) period in order to meet the requirements of The Environmental Noise (England) Regulations 2006 are plotted from 50 to 70 dBA in 5 dB increments. We do not hold annual L_{night} noise contour maps that show levels below 50 dBA.

Where L_{night} noise maps have been produced by the CAA for the 8-hour *summer* average night (2300-0700) period, these are plotted from 48 to 66 dBA in 3 dB increments. We do

Civil Aviation Authority

Aviation House Gatwick Airport South Gatwick RH6 0YR www.caa.co.uk

Telephone 01293 768512 foi.requests@caa.co.uk

not hold summer L_{night} contour maps that show levels below 48 dBA. Likewise, where $L_{\text{eq 6.5hr}}$ noise maps have been produced by the CAA for the 6.5 hour average night (2330-0600) period, these are typically plotted from 48 to 63 dBA in 3 dB increments. We do not hold $L_{\text{eq 6.5hr}}$ contour maps that show levels below 48 dBA.

Please also note that we do not hold L_{night} or $L_{\text{eq 6.5hr}}$ noise contour maps broken down by season (as defined by the start and end times of British Summer Time) or by month between 2011 and 2016 for any of the London airports.

- **Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted 2011 Annual L_{night} Strategic Noise Maps**

ERCD Reports 1204, 1205 and 1206 provide 2011 Annual L_{night} noise contour maps for Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted respectively. These have been produced to meet the requirements of the Environmental Noise (England) Regulations 2006 and can be downloaded from the CAA website at

<http://publicapps.caa.co.uk/modalapplication.aspx?catid=1&pagetype=65&appid=11&mode=list&type=search&search=Strategic%20Noise%20Maps%202011>

- **Heathrow 2012, 2013 and 2014 Annual L_{night} and $L_{\text{eq 6.5hr}}$ Noise Maps**

ERCD Reports 1305, 1404 and 1504 provide Heathrow Airport Noise Action Plan Contours for 2012, 2013 and 2014 respectively, which can be downloaded from the airport's website at <http://www.heathrow.com/noise/facts,-stats-and-reports/reports>

Please also find enclosed a copy of the 2015 Annual L_{night} noise contour map for Heathrow. The corresponding contour areas are as follows:

▪ Heathrow 2015 annual L_{night} (dBA)	▪ Area (km ²)
▪ > 50	▪ 74.1
▪ > 55	▪ 26.4
▪ > 60	▪ 8.6
▪ > 65	▪ 3.0
▪ >70	▪ 1.4

- **Gatwick 2011 Annual $L_{\text{eq 6.5hr}}$ and 2015 Annual L_{night} Noise Maps**

Please find enclosed a copy of the 2011 Annual $L_{\text{eq 6.5hr}}$ noise contour map (48 dBA only) and the 2015 Annual L_{night} noise contour map for Gatwick. The corresponding contour areas are as follows:

▪ Gatwick 2011 annual $L_{\text{eq 6.5hr}}$ (dBA)	▪ Area (km ²)
▪ > 48	▪ 35.1

▪ Gatwick 2015 annual L_{night} (dBA)	▪ Area (km ²)
▪ > 48	▪ 70.2
▪ > 51	▪ 35.3
▪ > 54	▪ 19.4
▪ > 57	▪ 10.0
▪ > 60	▪ 5.2
▪ > 63	▪ 2.7
▪ > 66	▪ 1.5

- **Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted 2013, 2014 and 2015 Summer L_{night} Noise Maps**

Summer L_{night} noise contour maps for 2013, 2014 and 2015 have been produced by the CAA on behalf of the Department for Transport (DfT) for each London airport, which can be downloaded from the DfT website at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/noise-contours-on-os-maps>

- **Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted Summer 2011/Winter 2011-12 $L_{\text{eq } 6.5\text{hr}}$ Noise Maps**

Annex B of the Department for Transport's January 2013 (Stage 1) consultation on night flight restrictions at Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted provides the $L_{\text{eq } 6.5\text{hr}}$ noise contour maps for the combined Summer 2011 and Winter 2011-12 seasons at each London airport. The January 2013 consultation document can be downloaded from the DfT website at <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/night-flights-consultation>

- **Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted Summer 2015/Winter 2015-16 $L_{\text{eq } 6.5\text{hr}}$ Noise Maps**

The Department for Transport's January 2017 consultation on night flight restrictions at Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted provides the $L_{\text{eq } 6.5\text{hr}}$ noise contour maps for the combined Summer 2015 and Winter 2015-16 seasons at each London airport. The January 2017 consultation document can be downloaded from the DfT website at <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/night-flight-restrictions-at-gatwick-heathrow-and-stansted>

In response to the second part of your original request we have considered your request to be seeking emails, letters and other correspondence between the CAA and the DfT in connection with the proposed reductions in noise quota limits for the next regime at Gatwick, as set out in the DfT's January 2017 consultation. On that basis I can confirm that we do not hold any correspondence on this specific issue.

As some of the information you have requested is not held by us, Regulation 12(4)(a) of the EIR applies. A copy of this exception can be found below.

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
<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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rihanne Stephen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large 'R' and 'S'.

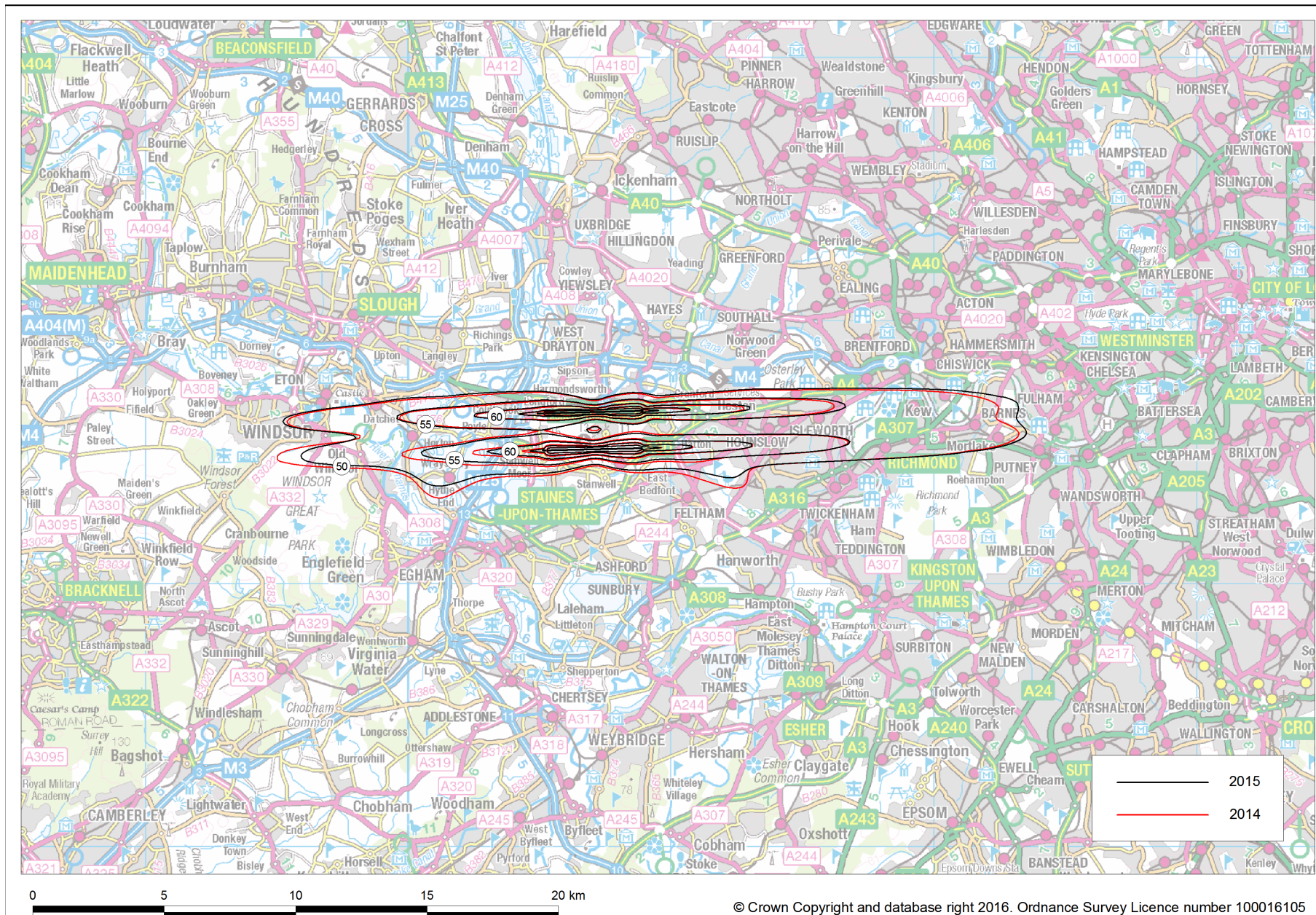
Rihanne Stephen
Information Rights Officer

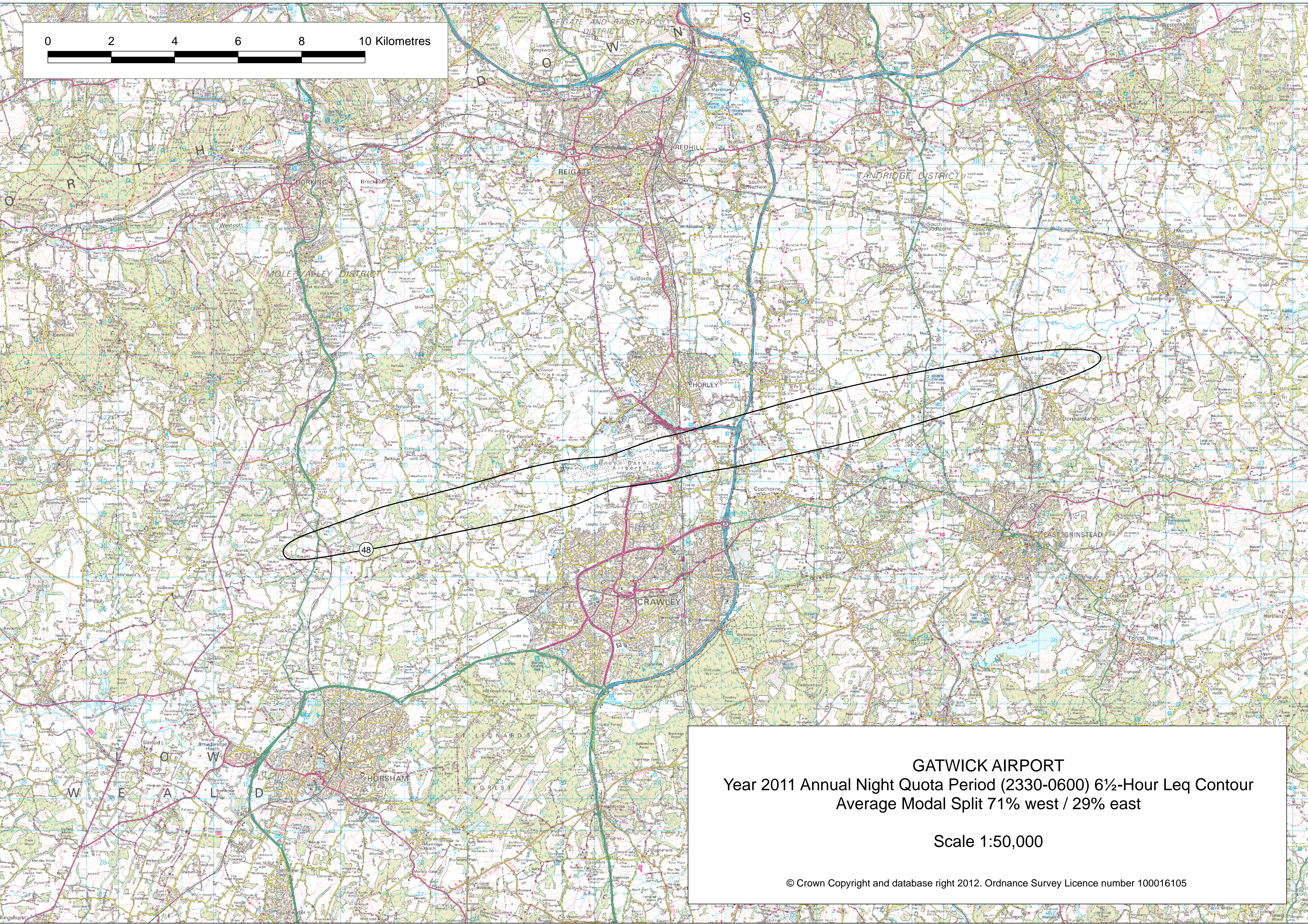
CAA INTERNAL REVIEW & COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

- 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.

Figure 5 Heathrow 2015 and 2014 L_{night} noise contours

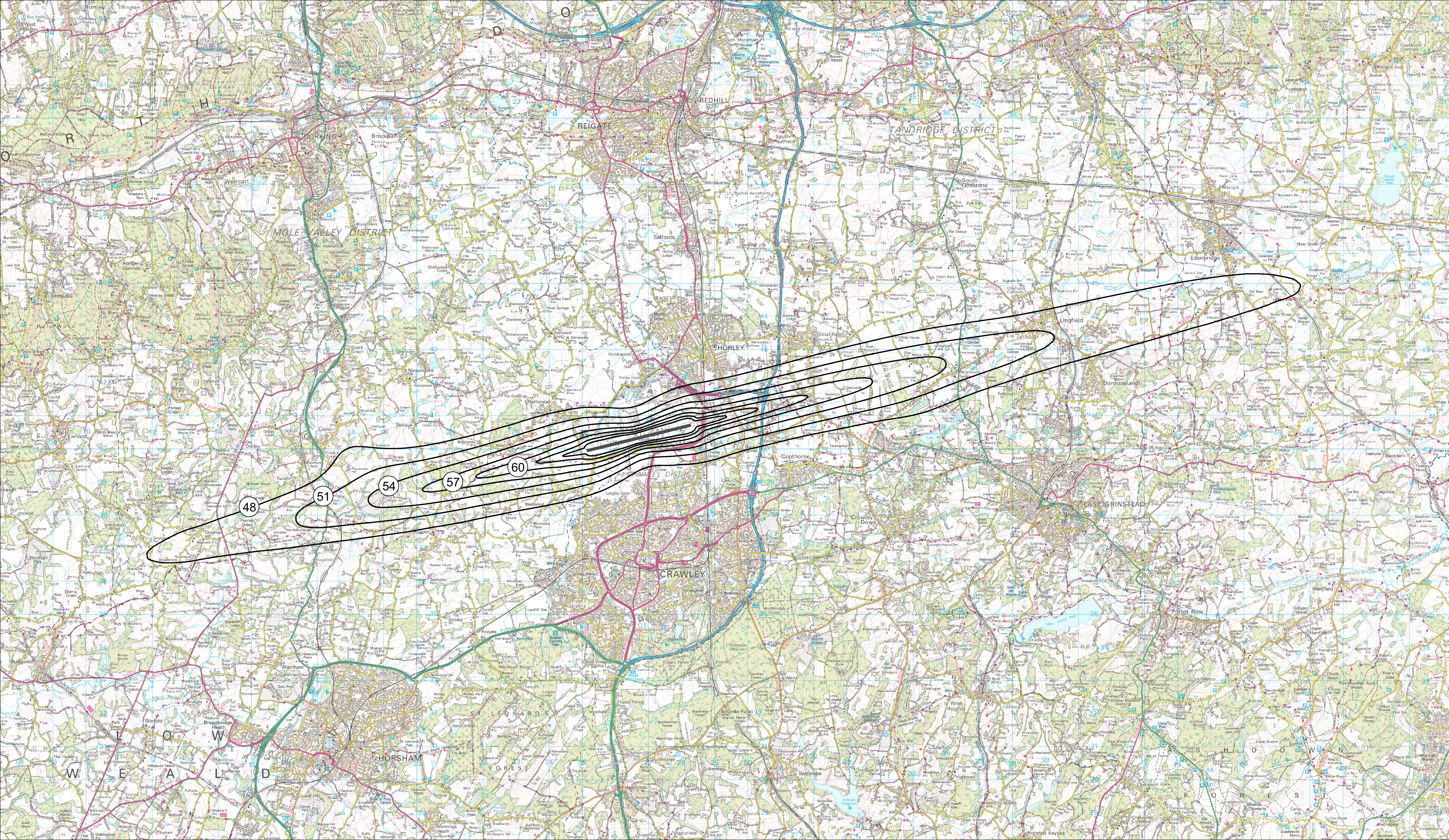


0 2 4 6 8 10 Kilometres

GATWICK AIRPORT
Year 2011 Annual Night Quota Period (2330-0600) 6½-Hour Leq Contour
Average Modal Split 71% west / 29% east

Scale 1:50,000

© Crown Copyright and database right 2012. Ordnance Survey Licence number 100016105



GATWICK AIRPORT
2015 Annual L_{night} 48-66 dB(A) Contours
Modal split 69% west / 31% east