

CAA Environmental Sustainability Panel Meeting Minutes

10:30 – 16:00 09 July 2025

Attendees

Ruth Mallors-Ray (RMR) - Panel Chair
Alastair Lewis (AL)
Charlotte Clark (CC)
David Lee (DL)
Martin Hawley (MH) (via Teams)
Ralitsa Hiteva (RH)
Tomos Joyce (ToJ) - CAA, (Item 2)
Ben Bouzon (BB) - CAA, (Item 2)
Ray Forster (RF) - CAA, (Items 3)
Miranda King (MK) - CAA, (Item 4)
Harry Armstrong (HA) - CAA, (Item 4)
Abigail Grenfell (AG) - CAA, (Item 5)
Tim Johnson (TJ) - CAA, (Item 9)
Lisa Norris (LN) - CAA, Secretariat
Tiago Dias (TD) - CAA, Graduate
Alison Harris (AH) - CAA, Panel Support
Vera Jakimovska - CAA, Observer

Apologies

Brian Pearce (BP)
Anil Namdeo (AN)
Mark Westwood (MW)

1. Chair's Welcome and Updates

- 1.1. Actions – the actions were discussed and updated.
- 1.2. Register of Interests – None.
- 1.3. Draft Minutes – Minutes of full meeting of the 15 May were approved.
- 1.4. Work Programme – The programme was discussed and updates provided.

2. Aviation Environmental Review (AERP) Roadmap

- 2.1. ToJ and BB presented the draft AER roadmap.
- 2.2. The key focus areas include: emissions database; alignment on reporting and future reporting on SAF; overflights and restricted airspace.
- 2.3. Panel members:
 - noted the importance of using credible metrics, including those that most accurately reflect fuel burn.
 - emphasised the need for clarity on UK aviation emission definitions
 - noted the scale of the task for the CAA and the limited resource and recommended engaging with EASA and Eurocontrol for benchmarking and collaboration and ATI on modelling.

3. Update on Safety Regulatory Risk Appetite

- 3.1. RF presented the CAA's work on safety regulatory risk appetite framework for innovation and new technologies. RF clarified that this framework was

regarding risks to the CAA on its approach to the decisions it takes regarding the introduction to the UK operating environment for new or innovative activities. The Panel sought clarity over how environmental and public health risks are considered as part of the CAA's approach to safety, and whether cumulative risk is considered.

- 3.2. The Panel expressed disappointment that environmental and public health risks are not considered within the CAA's current safety definitions
- 3.3. The Panel recommended the CAA revisit the definition of safety to encompass broader environmental and health impacts.

4. Climate Adaptation

MK discussed the work underway to set out the CAA's role in climate adaptation and resilience. The Panel supported the initiative and recommended focusing on cascading failures, systemic interdependencies, and localised risks such as wind shear and flooding. RH suggested convening cross-sectoral discussions and leveraging existing work from NHS and other sectors. DL noted that ICAO CAEP is looking at this and suggested that we look at what other countries are doing. MH and DL emphasized the importance of R&D and external collaboration.

5. ES Dashboard/Overview

The Panel acknowledged the need for improved data accessibility and integration across CAA teams.

6. Environmental Sustainability Strategy

The Panel said that the proposals in the draft Board paper reflected the discussions at the Panel. Discussions focused on embedding environmental considerations into regulatory processes. The Panel stressed the importance of early engagement and use of systems thinking in policy development.

7. Contrail Avoidance – Status of Developments and Stakeholders

DL raised the topic of solar radiation management and its aviation implications. The Panel agreed to schedule a briefing to explore the topic further and document aviation links to SRM techniques. CC will share a link to a paper on this.

8. SAF Board Paper

Extensive discussion on SAF included: provenance; feedstock sustainability; cost implications and industry confidence.

9. Strategic Overview

TJ provided an overview of the ExCo Governance meeting which took place earlier today and other strategic updates.

10. AOB

None.