

Minutes

Subject: Meeting of the Aircraft Noise Community Consultative Group
Location: Meeting held in Person and via Microsoft Teams
Date: 10 March 2025

Members Present

In Person:

Kylie Higgs, Auckland Airport
Rachel Devine, Independent Chair

Via "Teams":

Councillor Alf Filipaina, Auckland Council
Cath O'Brian, BARNZ
Bruce Kendall, Howick Local Board (From 1.20pm)
Fiona Lai, Puketāpapa Local Board
Geoff Hounsell, Airways Corporation (From 1.13pm)
Heather Haylock, Community Representative
Helen Futter, Community Representative
Jack Tan, Albert-Eden Local Board
Joe Glassie-Rasmussen, Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board (alternate)
Karl Taylor, Airways Corporation
Kelvin Hieatt, Papakura Local Board (From 1.25pm)
Laura Platts, Auckland Airport (until 2.31pm)
Malcom Bell, Franklin Local Board
Mark Allen, Waitākere Ranges Local Board
Mark Easson, Community Representative
Maria Meredith, Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board
Tauanu'u Nick Bakulich, Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board (From 1.40pm)

In Attendance

In Person:

Andrea Marshall, Auckland Airport (from 2.36pm)
Caitlin Goodman, Auckland Airport
Jeremy Lo, Auckland Airport
Kathleen Delaney, CASPER Airport Solutions Manager (Australia)
Mark Laurenson, Auckland Airport
Stephanie King, Marshall Day Acoustics
Steve Hardwick, Auckland Airport
Steve Peakall, Marshall Day Acoustics

Via "Teams":

David Wong, Auckland Council

Members of the Public

Nil

Apologies

Helen Twose, Auckland Airport
Troy Churton, Ōrākei Local Board

1. Opening Karakia, Kylie Higgs

2. Meeting Quorum & Apologies

The Independent Chair, once quorum was confirmed, declared the meeting opened at 1:00pm.

Apologies as listed on cover page 1 of these Minutes. Visitor, Kathleen Delaney from CASPER Australia, was welcomed and noted that she had been invited to address the group later in the meeting.

In considering quorum, the Chair raised the issue of non-attending members or their alternates. It was noted that non-attendance for three meetings can result in the Chair determining the member to have resigned. Four members were identified as not attended for at least the last three meetings, and had neither given apologies or ensured alternates attended. Some discussion about their status ensued. It included the importance of local board members attending to represent their communities, particularly those close to the airport. The Chair indicated that she would consider non-attendance from the next meeting as resignation and require new representatives to be nominated.

The Chair also enquired about the presence on-line of the Council Planners (i.e., compliance monitoring staff as per a Matters Arising action item from the December 2024 meeting). They were confirmed not in attendance, and Councillor Alf Filipaina undertook to break from the meeting in order to phone the “Manager for Licensing and Environmental Health” to discuss, and to re-join the meeting to convey the outcome. *[Alf Filipaina subsequently re-joined and gave the meeting a summary of this phone call: After recent restructures, the compliance monitoring position does not exist, and the GM will now await an email from the Secretariat. Alf Filipaina will also undertake to write a letter relating to the above wider “non-attendance” issue].*

Actions: 1; Both the Secretariat and Alf Filipaina to write to all identified “absent” members and their Board Chairs to note their lack of attendance, the lack of attendance of alternates and to request confirmation of their attendance or a new representative at future meetings.

3. Public Forum

The Chair noted that no requests were received from the public to speak at or to observe the meeting.

4. Minutes of Meeting Held on 09 December 2024

Jeremy Lo spoke to minimal feedback received on the previous minutes under the new process proposed at and implemented after the September 2024 meeting.

[At this point of the meeting, Helen Futter informed the group that she had repeated her previous test (refer to the Matters Arising item in Minutes of 09 December 2024 meeting) of the Council website noise complaints number. The minute record of the resulting discussion is contained within Item 7 below].

5. Changes to Work Plan and Agenda

The Chair gave thanks to Jeremy Lo for his service as Secretariat (this will be his final meeting) and introduced Caitlin Goodman who will be his replacement. Jeremy Lo spoke to the agenda adjustment to allow a presentation from a visiting CASPER representative (new item 10 below).

6. Identification of Conflicts of Interest for this Meeting

No conflicts were identified.

7. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

Jeremy Lo spoke to completion of several items, and progress on various other items in the Matters Arising paper circulated as part of the Meeting Pack:

- Item 2; Jeremy Lo has had a link to the Auckland Airport noise complaints webpage put up on the Council website (the Council site is “generic” on aircraft noise).
- Item 2; Helen Futter informed the group that she remained concerned about the Council noise complaints process, as a result of her re-testing (since the previous meeting) the Council website noise complaints number and described the three either incorrect or unhelpful suggestions the call-

taker had offered her. She asserted that Council call-takers still needed some “professional development”. Councillor Alf Filipaina agreed to raise it with the Council website “owner”.

- Item 10; There is no issue, as local government elections are after the September 2025 ANCCG meeting (and representatives get elected in November):
- Item 13; the CASPER Noise Lab will be an AIAL business decision in conjunction with finalising FY26 budgets.

There were no further questions or comments.

Actions: 1; Helen Futter to email Alf Filipaina the details of her testing of the Council call-takers’ responses to her “aircraft noise complaint(s)”.

2; Alf Filipaina to then write to the Council “owner” of the website and/or the Council “owner” of the noise complaint call-taking process, seeking solution(s), and to report back the results to the Secretariat and to Helen Futter.

3; AIAL to write an email to the Manager for Licensing and Environmental Health to encourage training of council front line staff about responding to noise complaints

8. Quarterly Aircraft Noise Report

Steve Peakall from Marshall Day Acoustics (“MDA”) spoke to the Report (separated into main report and “Supplementary” report), noting that the items members previously observed as missing had now been added back in.

The Chair requested an explanation of the Airways data feed outage mentioned on slide 2 of the main report and in several places in the supplementary report. Steve Peakall stated that it had not been an equipment problem but a “correlation issue” (citing the example of being able to attribute a recorded noise to an aircraft, as opposed to a chainsaw, for instance). Kathleen Delaney advised that CASPER relies on data that Airways provides under a contractual arrangement. Data provision relies on certain hardware installed at Airways, a piece of which had failed for that 2-week period, but which was back in operation after that period. Investigation is ongoing, including whether the missing data could be obtained via alternative “hard files”. The Chair asked Geoff Hounsell to report back to the group about what has been done to restore the group’s confidence that accurate, usable, aircraft noise data will be continuously recorded and available.

Heather Haylock asked if the “historic complainant” cited in slide 13 of the supplementary report had been spoken to; Jeremy Lo responded he had not done so. The Chair suggested the person could be invited to attend one of the ANCCG meetings.

In response to a Mark Allen query whether the data revealed any trends, particularly relating to commonalities in aircrafts or timing of day, general discussion ensued and covered the following:

- Whether data is analysed for specific aircraft “types” being responsible for higher noise (it is not).
- Aircraft manufacturers’ maintenance requirements.
- The requirement for aircraft to fly paths that Airways directs them to fly, and the issues of wind conditions and “separation” requirements upon aircraft traffic.
- “Tight turns” above Conifer Grove, “Rate 1 turns” and aircraft power settings.
- BARNZ does not undertake analysis of noise relative to aircraft type. Neither does Airways, who rely on CAA for approving aircraft that met noise standards. Airways noted that the standards differ for commercial versus state aircraft, that some being more prone to generating noise than others and always recognising that many factors relate to noise.

Actions: 1; Geoff Hounsell of Airways to report back to the group about the investigation of the data outage and steps taken to ensure it doesn’t happen again.

2; Jeremy Lo to contact the “historic complainant” and invite them to attend and/or speak to a future ANCCG meeting.

9. Quarterly Noise Reduction Report

Mark Laurenson spoke to the Report. General discussion ensued about whether Council or other attendees could suggest sources of information that could help fill certain gaps in AIAL's records of its historical noise remediation activities for affected properties so that the finite quantity of properties eligible for AIAL packages could be understood. (Mark Laurenson cited, as an example, records on age and numbers of dwellings by suburb (as at, for example, 2001)). David Wong of Auckland Council undertook to investigate. The Chair and members offered the following suggestions:

- The existence of a Report for economic analysis prepared for Unitary Plan hearings regarding the existing and potential numbers of buildings/residences by suburb to support arguments that increased density was possible.
- Council GIS Team or a "Data & Insights" Team.
- Possible dwelling counts for Unitary Plan purposes, or Council records of rates/property values.
- Determining the number of covenants in existence, as evidenced by Land Transfer/Property Titles records.
- Census information.

Helen Futter raised the issue of lifespan and maintenance of things like heat pumps AIAL has helped install, given that some would be more than 20 years old now. AIAL advised that the covenant places the onus on landowners to maintain the pumps after they are installed.

The Chair thanked Mark Laurenson for report that included a long list of encouraging activities for the year ahead, with potential for significant positive engagement.

[At this point, Alf Filipaina spoke of the results of his phone conversation minute above in item 2, and the result is recorded in these minutes as part of item 2].

- Actions:**
- 1; Mark Laurenson to provide David Wong with the list of suburbs/locations for which additional data records are sought; and
 - 2; David Wong to make enquiries using sources of information available to the Council to help the group understand the number of eligible properties in the HANA, MANA and future MANA areas (with any assistance to be given by Alf Filipaina and Mervin Chetty at David's request) and report back at the following meeting.

10. CASPER Global Insights Update

Kathleen Delaney's verbal presentation (ie, not part of the meeting materials pack) on "global insights" replaced the agenda item, "Noise Complaint Process".

[The Chair requested that prior to Kathleen Delaney's presentation, Alf Filipaina (having now returned to this meeting) be appraised of the results of Helen Futtters phone call to the Council noise number. Helen summarised the call again for Alf Filipaina. The outcome is recorded in these minutes as part of item 7].

Kathleen Delaney's verbal presentation to the meeting (and in response to members' questions) touched upon the following:

- Many non-Europe airports are now moving away from having a dedicated "Noise Office" to aircraft noise being just one of several concerns of an "Environmental" or "Sustainability Team" (eg, sustainability, electric vehicles, waste reduction, etc), resulting in a less capacity to focus on aircraft noise.
- Some noise issues with disembarking noise where airports don't have airbridges and use stairs and passengers walking across tarmac.
- Introduction of new aircraft types, and a greater discussion of aircraft noise *outside of* airports.
- India's new Pollution Control Board requiring airports with over 200,000 annual movement to install noise monitoring systems.
- Trend towards consultant-generated, short-term (eg, 6-months), trials and noise reporting (especially USA airports).

- In Australia, the Air Services Australia monitors aircraft noise, and some airports are doing their own analysis and reporting due to an increased focus on community consultation about noise.
- A new focus on using AI for things like video analysis of aircraft on stands, analysis of noise recordings to distinguish aircraft noise from other noise sources, analysis of noise from a directional point-of-view, noise detection without the need for radar.
- Electric aircraft, both piloted and autonomous (especially on conference discussion agendas).
- Airport curfews in Australia are a unique case, as that is governed by their Curfews Act.

The Chair thanked Kathleen Delaney and expressed gratitude she could attend in person and share these international insights.

11. Draft Terms of Reference

Kylie Higgs updated the group that members' feedback had all now informed a final draft; it was now for the Group to agree that the document proceed to the formal adoption process to become part of Designation 1100.

Jeremy Lo summarised feedback received over the Christmas break period, including feedback from BARNZ and the Chair. Mark Laurenson advised that both Te Ākitai and Te Ahiwaru were given the opportunity for feedback on the Terms of Reference document and that the response received from Te Ākitai supported the flexibility of attending ANCCG meetings online or in person and for Te Ākitai to input re noise matters via the ANCCG or Kaitiaki Forum. Te Ākitai requested it be advised of ANCCG meetings and agenda to inform its attendance. No feedback had been received from Te Ahiwaru at the time of the meeting.

In response to the Chair's expressed desire for a respectful approach to the concerns of mana whenua and a desire for the group to have the benefit of their insights, learnings and concerns regarding noise, Mark Laurenson explained that direct hui with Te Ākitai and Te Ahiwaru have been providing the forum for addressing noise concerns from iwi. As drafted the ToR would provide for that to continue or for iwi to attend meetings of the ANCCG. Where the preference from iwi was for noise matters to be addressed via the kaitiaki forum AIAL advised it would seek approval to bring that information back to the ANCCG. The Chair suggested that such an opportunity for kaitiaki feedback could be included in each meeting and AIAL could speak to that if kaitiaki did not attend the ANCCG meeting. AIAL agreed.

The Chair questioned the change of wording from former "to access" technical guidance, to now "to consider" technical guidance (in effect, replacing the onus to ask for information with considering whatever guidance the group is given, if any), and Mark Laurenson responded that this was an oversight and that the original wording could be reinstated.

The Chair thanked AIAL for undertaking the process in a patient and considered manner and requested a show of hands in person and on-line to demonstrate support for AIAL to progress the changes to the Terms of Reference with Auckland Council. The group unanimously voted in support of the changes.

- Actions:**
1. AIAL to reinstate former wording "to access" technical guidance in Activity 8 of the draft Terms of Reference document.
 2. AIAL to submit to Council a formal alteration to the designation seeking to replace the Terms of Reference and to inform Alf Filipaina of when it is being presented to Council, and he would liaise with the Council CEO.
 3. AIAL to include Te Akitai and Te Ahiwaru in the circulation of minutes and work with the Chair to include in the agenda a standing item which seeks feedback from Kaitiaki directly or via AIAL.

12. DMAPS Pre and Post-implementation Memo and Report

Kylie Higgs elaborated upon minor corrections that were needed to the materials pack on this matter (the Secretariat having emailed updated documents to group members at 12.15pm on the day this meeting was held).

Steve Peakall spoke to the broad methodology that while some specific flights may be more noticeable, the overall average noise levels will be largely unaffected. He agreed that a 10dBA change is significant. Kylie

Higgs also reiterated that the turboprop north departure “line on the map” had been permanently moved, in actual practice, most of those flights “get turned early”. AIAL will closely monitor complaints that can be attributed to specific flights in this area.

The Chair asked representatives of specific suburbs for feedback, noting that the report clearly identified Māngere as the most impacted area. General feedback was received and discussed (Nick Bakulich, Māngere; Alf Filipaina; Heather Haylock & Helen Futter, Māngere East) along the lines that local people did not commonly complain despite the increase in noise. Nick Bakulich offered to help promote the complaint line in his community.

Actions: 1. AIAL to liaise with Nick Bakulich and the Māngere local board about ways to promote the noise complaints process.

13. Auckland Airport Community Trust ANCCG Appointment

The Chair requested a show of hands in person and on-line to the proposal that the group agree to Apulu Reece Autagavia becoming the Auckland Airport Community Trust ANCCG appointment to replace the outgoing Tauanu’u Nick Bakulich.

The Chair assessed the response as “consensus” to the proposal.

Alf Filipaina raised the issue of the timing of such processes when elections come after these appointments.

Actions: 1; The Secretariat to ensure required formalities are performed to put forward Apulu Reece Autagavia as an Auckland Airport Community Trust member.

2; AIAL consider an appropriate update to the procedures to seek to avoid appointments to this position prior to an election (such as triggering the position after October in any election year) .

14. Any Other Business and Introduction to Masterplan

Andrea Marshall advised that AIAL was about to start community consultation on its airport masterplan to 204. Aircraft noise, noise contours and noise complaint procedures will be raised in these community processes. Her intention is to report at the next meeting some of the content being consulted on and noise issues raised as part of the consultation process. The Group appreciated the early advice of the process and welcomed the forthcoming briefing.

Action: AIAL to promptly email the group with further details about the AKL Masterplan community consultation process so that members can ensure their communities attend these events.

There being no other business, the Chair closed the meeting with Karakia.

Closing Karakia by Kylie Higgs

Meeting closed: 3.01pm

Next meeting: 9 June 2025