



NEW FOREST ASSOCIATION

Registered Charity No: 260328

www.newforestassociation.org

Chairman: William Ziegler

PLANNING COMMITTEE -DEVELOPMENT CONTROL

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Sally Windsor
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20th October 2009

Dear Ms Windsor

Bournemouth Airport Draft Noise Action Plan (BADNAP)

The New Forest Association, one of the country's oldest conservation bodies formed in 1867, welcomes the opportunity to comment on this aptly named plan.

The Association fully endorses the views expressed in the letter from the National Park Authority of 1st October 2009 and wishes to add some of its own comments.

This is a reasonably comprehensive plan that shows how complaints are recorded and analysed but appears to do little to remove the cause of them. Perhaps the most telling factor is that a greater number of complaints emanate from the small villages of Burley and Bransgore, both within or up against the National Park, as against the huge populations of Bournemouth and Poole. There appears to be little or no real account taken of the proximity and status of the National Park which is within two miles of the Airport boundary.

Section 7.6 pays lip service to the National Park acknowledging the existence of national guidelines and then shows how in every flight over the area these guidelines are breached. No action is proposed that affords any remedy for this.

The Airport Authority will be aware of the need for them, as a relevant authority, to have regard to the purposes of the National Park under Section 62 of the 1995 Environment Act. Aircraft movements are planned to treble in the coming twenty years. It is not clear that sufficient attention is being paid to limit the noise and disturbance that this must bring to those who visit and live within the National Park. This document is all about monitoring an existing problem and how that monitoring is working and little about rectification of the problem.

Night flying is particularly disturbing for residents; a three fold increase would make life intolerable for a number of communities. Perhaps the way forward would be to limit the hours during which the Airport operates regular flights?

Tranquillity is a major reason many people live and visit the New Forest, sadly there are few if any parts that are now really quiet thanks to modern transport systems. This is not to say that matters must get worse, a real attempt at alleviating the airborne noise would reflect well on the Airport's attitude to life; after all a considerable number of its consumers live within the National Park. Increased monitoring merely tells the Airport Authority that there is a problem and it is getting worse. One of the key areas that this plan should be addressing is how its current flights plus the planned three-fold increase can impact less on the National Park. Changes to glide paths and angles may well have a beneficial effect on those beneath.

In conclusion there are clearly a number of areas that could be addressed in limiting the adverse effects of overflying the National Park; scant regard appears to have been paid to them.

Yours faithfully

Peter Roberts

Chairman of Planning Committee