

Points submitted to the DfT Consultation on Night Flights by Buckland Parish Council

1. Council welcomes the aim to encourage quieter aircraft. However, Council believes the aim should be to reduce the number of people significantly affected by noise or place a cap on the number, not just to seek to limit the number.
2. Council strongly disagrees that movement limits at Heathrow and Gatwick should remain unchanged. Council believes they should be reduced. Council would like to see all aircraft movements banned during the prescribed night time no flying period regardless of when the original flights were scheduled to take off and regardless of any delays that may have occurred on the ground.
3. Council believes the UK Government should set targets for the regime period to recognise the advances in technology and to strongly incentivise and encourage the industry to progressively introduce quieter aircraft.
4. Council supports the creation of *“a new noise category to capture the majority of aircraft that are currently exempt from the night flight restrictions, and ensure all currently exempt aircraft count towards an airport's movement limit”* at both Gatwick and Heathrow. Council has no comment in respect of Stansted.
5. Council wishes to see a longer night quota period. Council believes six and a half hours is too short and urges Government to extend the period, in particular to reduce the adverse effect on the early morning period.
6. Council questions any suggestion that economic benefit should outweigh the environmental disturbance caused to communities by night flying.

14th February 2017