

Answer to ExA fourth written questions by deadline 9
TRo20002 -Manston Airport - Ref:20011948

Dear Sir,

Thank you for the opportunity to respond as an interested party to questions DCO.4.17 to DCO.4.22. However, I have nothing to add except on DCO.4.22

DCO.4.22 New Requirement 19c dDCO [PD-018] issued on 14 June 2019:

“No passenger air transport departures can take place between the hours of 09.00 and 12.00 and no passenger air transport arrivals can take place between the hours of 07.00 and 08.00.”

With the stated reason for this being that:

“In order to ensure that vehicle movements associated with passenger arrivals and departures do not impact on the am peak period. “

Answer

Referring to Appendix ISH-30 from REP8-017:

“2.13 Following discussions of this item at the hearing, the Applicant confirms that there will be a ban on flights arriving or departing between 09.00 and 11.30, with one departure permitted from 11.30 and one from 12.45. For the 11:30 departure, it is assumed that half of the 30% passenger arrivals would fall within the morning peak hour and for the departure at 11.45, one quarter of passengers would fall within the peak hour.”

This would suggest that the draft DCO proposed by the ExA is broadly in line with the applicant but should be modified:

“No passenger air transport departures can take place between the hours of 09.00 and 11.30 and no passenger air transport arrivals can take place between the hours of 07.00 and 08.00.”

The applicant also states in Appendix ISH-30 from REP8-017:

“2.14 As noted in paragraph 2.9 above, the overestimation of the AM peak hour traffic is comparable to the traffic generation for departure and arrival flights which would affect the AM peak hour. On this basis, the DCO TA has been robust and has assessed a situation equivalent to departure/arrival flights affecting the AM peak hour.”

In addition, one needs to take into account the difference between Manston as proposed and other airports. Firstly, the further people have to travel to an airport the more they are inclined to set out earlier "just in case" particularly if their route involves the M25 and / or the Dartford crossing. That aspect is less of a factor at Manston. Secondly passengers travelling to airports have to factor in the time taken to park and catch a shuttle bus to the airport. Parking at Manston is a short walk away. Thirdly the distance between the check in area, security, departure gates and aircraft stands is minimal compared with other airports which enables a much shorter time between check in and departure. This would mean that an 11.30 departure would have little or no affect on the peak flow times because the majority of passengers would not need to arrive until about 10.00.

I would therefore argue that the modification suggested by me earlier is fully justified and could, if anything, be overly cautious so 11.00 rather than 11.30 could be more applicable.

"No passenger air transport departures can take place between the hours of 09.00 and 11.00 and no passenger air transport arrivals can take place between the hours of 07.00 and 08.00."

Kind regards,

David Stevens