



# Gatwick Airport Northern Runway Project

## ES Appendix 14.9.10 Noise Insulation Scheme Update Note

### **Book 5**

**VERSION: 1.0**

**DATE: MARCH 2024**

**Application Document Ref: 5.3**

**PINS Reference Number: TR020005**

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## 1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This update note in relation to the Noise Insulation Scheme (NIS), **ES Appendix 14.9.10 [APP-180]**, provides further details on how Gatwick Airport Ltd ("GAL") will implement the Northern Runway Project Noise Insulation Scheme (NIS), building on experience of the current scheme that has been in operation since 2014 and its forerunner. This note is provided to the DCO Examination at Deadline 2 to provide the Examining Authority and Interested Parties with additional information on the proposed scheme in response to feedback received. A revised Noise Insulation Scheme and Home Relocation Assistance Scheme document incorporating the content of this note is proposed to be submitted at Deadline 3 on 19 April 2024.
- 1.1.2 There are two parts to the NIS; the 'Inner Zone', and the 'Outer Zone', which together make up the 'whole scheme', as defined in Chapter 4 of the NIS.
- 1.1.3 This note also provides details on how GAL will implement the Home Relocation Assistance Scheme.
- 1.1.4 Temporary noise insulation, if needed, during construction of the Project is dealt with separately through the **Code of Construction Practice [REP1-021]** and would apply to a very small number of properties as reported in the ES.

## 2 Advertising the Scheme

- 2.1.1 After the commencement of the airfield works of the project, details of the new scheme will be published on the Gatwick Airport website, replacing the details of the current scheme<sup>1</sup>. This will include the package of insulation available, an interactive map to check eligibility, FAQs, and details of how to apply.
- 2.1.2 Within three months following the commencement of any of Work Nos. 1 – 7 comprised in the Project (as defined in the **Draft DCO [REP1-004]**), GAL will submit to each relevant planning authority details of how the noise insulation scheme is to be promoted and administered to persons considered to be vulnerable to noise related effects to ensure equitable access to the noise insulation scheme.
- 2.1.3 GAL will launch the Inner Zone scheme within 6 months following the commencement of Work Nos. 1 – 7 comprised in the Project (as defined in the DCO). All properties within the geographic area that qualify will be contacted with details of the scheme and invited to apply. Where any household requires assistance in understanding what is on offer, GAL will make further contact with the householder to explain the offer by telephone or in person, making use of translators if necessary.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://aircraftnoise.gatwickairport.com/2021/03/29/noise-insulation-scheme/>

- 2.1.4 Within not more than three years following the commencement of any of Work Nos. 1 – 7 comprised in the Project (as defined in the Draft DCO) GAL will contact all properties within the geographic area that qualify for the Outer Zone scheme and invite them to apply. Again, where any household requires assistance in understanding what is on offer, GAL will make further contact with the householder to explain the offer by telephone or in person, making use of translators if necessary.
- 2.1.5 GAL will also advertise the opening of the Inner Zone and Outer Zone schemes on their website and through the local press.

### 3 Applying for the Scheme

- 3.1.1 Applications must be made to GAL at the postal or email address provided and will require completion of an eligibility form. A phone number will also be provided for queries on the scheme to be discussed.
- 3.1.2 Whilst GAL may receive and will accept applications from tenants, the property owner's consent will be required before works are agreed and undertaken. Applicable buildings must be permanent lawful residential dwellings. GAL will consider the application, confirm to the applicant if they are eligible, and pass on details of eligible properties to the appointed contractor who will then make contact with the property owner (or their representative) to begin the process of identifying and installing the appropriate noise insulation measures.

### 4 Costs

- 4.1.1 Only works to noise sensitive rooms (bedrooms, studies, living rooms and dining rooms) will be paid for. The acoustic insulation works are intended to improve acoustic insulation to noise sensitive rooms, not to otherwise improve the property. Any homeowner wishing to request additional acoustic treatments may do so at the same unit rates, paying any excess over the stated amount (as with the current NIS). The scheme will not replace acoustic insulation installed under the previous NIS unless its acoustic performance has significantly reduced below the level expected.
- 4.1.2 The limits on the funding amounts will be reviewed every three years or as necessary (by reference to cost inflation) to ensure the scheme continues to deliver the intended degree of sound insulation.
- 4.1.3 GAL is currently reviewing the levels of financial support offered in the NIS to update them in line with price inflation since the original proposals were formulated and to take account of other stakeholder feedback. These new amounts will be included in the updated NIS document to be submitted at Deadline 3.

## 5 Installation

- 5.1.1 In all cases the contractor will make an appointment to visit the home and discuss and agree the work to be undertaken with the property owner. The contractor will provide a quotation for the works, for GAL and the property owner to agree before planning installation. In the Outer Zone it is expected that the majority of installations will proceed without further surveys. In the Inner Zone, where homeowners request further treatments such as to upstairs bedroom ceilings, GAL may require a survey to be undertaken to confirm what is appropriate.
- 5.1.2 In the case of listed buildings, or for buildings within conservation areas, the property owner and/or occupier should contact the local council to establish if planning permission or listed building consent is required. Where planning permission or listed building consent is required, the owner should advise GAL and GAL's contractors will survey the property and submit the necessary application for the required consents following any requirements of the local conservation officer and Historic England's guidance *Energy Efficiency and Historic Buildings, Secondary Glazing for Windows, 2016*.

## 6 Acoustic Package

- 6.1.1 The following products will be available for noise-sensitive rooms, i.e. bedrooms, studies, sitting rooms, dining rooms.

### Inner Zone

- 6.1.2 Acoustic double glazing to noise sensitive rooms, with acoustic performance of at least  $R_w+C_{tr} \geq 35$  dB tested to BS EN ISO 10140-2:2021 – TC Acoustics. Laboratory measurement of sound insulation of building elements - Measurement of airborne sound insulation. For properties where replacement acoustic double glazing is not suitable, such as some listed buildings, acoustic secondary glazing will be available. In such cases the secondary glazing will be subject to the design of the particular property but will generally be in the form of a separate frame at least 100mm from the external glazing.
- 6.1.3 Acoustic ventilators will be available for noise-sensitive rooms with an acoustic performance to reduce aircraft noise from outside to inside by at least 40dB(A) and to provide both passive and active fresh air supply, controllable from zero to at least 170 m<sup>3</sup>/h. This would allow for at least two air changes per hour to be provided for the vast majority of rooms treated. The acoustic ventilators are provided to allow windows to remain closed more often in warmer weather, but not to completely negate the need to open windows in certain circumstances.
- 6.1.4 Blinds will be available to acoustically upgraded windows exposed to direct sunlight.

- 6.1.5 Where external doors to noise sensitive rooms are judged to provide at least 5dB(A) less sound attenuation than the acoustic windows provided, an acoustically superior door or where appropriate and practicable a secondary door will be available.
- 6.1.6 Where ceilings to bedrooms are judged to provide at least 5dB(A) less sound attenuation than the building fabric with acoustic windows provided, the property owner can request an acoustic survey to determine if there is a practicable design to upgrade the ceiling or roof space insulation to reduce noise ingress from above.
- 6.1.7 In all cases, the property owner would be consulted, with a suitable contractor and surveyor developing a practical design to reduce noise ingress as far as reasonably practicable. There may be a number of reasons why particular forms of insulation would not be practicable or desirable including, but not limited to; interference with use of the loft space for storage, the presence of plumbing or other equipment, or risk to the building structure or design.

#### Outer Zone

- 6.1.8 Where a property has single glazed windows, acoustic double glazing or secondary glazing will be available to noise sensitive rooms, as for the Inner Zone.
- 6.1.9 For all qualifying properties acoustic ventilators will be available for noise-sensitive rooms, as described above for the Inner Zone.

## 7 Home Relocation Assistance Scheme

- 7.1.1 GAL will launch the scheme upon commencement of routine operations on the Northern Runway facilitated by the Project. Details of the scheme will be published on the Gatwick Airport website. This will include the assistance package available, FAQs, and details of how to apply.
- 7.1.2 Whereas the noise insulation scheme will be based on noise contours modelled from future forecasts of Air Traffic Movements in the ES, the Home Relocation Assistance Scheme will be based on standard mode noise contours reported in the Noise Envelope Annual Noise Monitoring and Forecasting Report reported each year.
- 7.1.3 After the first year when the first noise contours are published GAL will write to all properties that meet the noise level eligibility criteria with details of the scheme and how to apply. In each subsequent year GAL will write to any additional properties that newly meet the noise level eligibility criteria.
- 7.1.4 Homeowners wishing to be considered should respond to GAL to discuss the package available and to arrange suitable quotations and estimates using suppliers and contractors approved by GAL. The owner must have had no prior knowledge of the Proposed Development, having acquired the property before the airport published its final masterplan in July 2019.

- 7.1.5 The costs available for home relocation assistance will be reviewed every three years to consider inflationary increases.