

WELLINGTON AIR NOISE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MEETING NOTES Monday 8 December 2025

Present:

Lindsay Daysh – Convenor
Eric Morgan – Air New Zealand/Airline & BARNZ Rep (via TEAMS)
Edward Dyer – Wellington City Council Representative (via TEAMS)
Craig Redpath – Life Flight Trust
Helen Salisbury – Western Resident representative
Jason Colton – Eastern Resident representative
Robin Boldarin - Eastern Resident representative

Jo Lester – WIAL Planning Manager
James Dobson – WIAL Environmental Compliance Planner

Apologies:

Tim Whitehead/Andrew Crawford - Airways NZ
Nannette Dempsey – WIAL Community Engagement Advisor
Jenna Raeburn – GM Corporate Affairs
Patrick Whelan – BARNZ (via TEAMS)
Aaron Gilmore – Western Resident representative

1 Welcome:

1.1 The meeting commenced at 5:35pm.

1.2 Patrick Whelan confirmed via email that the BARNZ representation for this meeting's quorum will be transferred to Eric Morgan.

2 Minutes of the Last Meeting:

2.1 The minutes of the last meeting (8 September 2025) were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Eric Morgan

Seconded: Helen Salisbury

ANMC Actions Update (from previous meeting):

Date Action generated	Action	By whom/Due	Update
13/03/2023	Patrick to invite Hugh Pierce (Air NZ) to ANMC meeting to provide a presentation to the committee on take-off procedures. Again, if unable to attend, can forward any questions from the committee to the representative.	PW	Ongoing
13/03/2023	DMAPS Update	WIAL/Airways	High court decision due in the new year.
09/06/2025	WIAL to provide final Seawall Renewal Project noise assessment and management plan to ANMC when available.	Jo L	<i>Note: Links to substantive application emailed to be to ANMC on 09/12/2025</i>
08/09/2025	WIAL to ask Envirosuite for clarification on the uncorrelated events in June and 'Background Noise Level Hi' data.	James D	Clarification sent to ANMC on 11 December with draft meeting minutes
08/09/2025	WIAL to share updated table with correct number of Area 3 households with acoustic treatment installed.	James D	Complete: Updated table shared on 12/09/2025
08/09/2025	WIAL to show number updates (so can review change) in next quarter Quieter Homes Update table	James D	Complete: Updates shared on 12/09/2025 (and will be used ongoing)

3 Actions updates

Jo L gave an update on Seawall Renewal Project:

- The Substantive application was lodged with the Environmental Protection Authority on 23rd October and accepted as complete on 14 November. It has now been referred to the panel convenor to organise an initial meeting with relevant parties (WIAL/GWRC/WCC/DOC/mana whenua etc) to ensure all on same page with any outstanding issues, before organising who is on the panel. Indication that this meeting will be held prior to Christmas.
- Resident rep asked about the process. Jo noted that some of the times frames will be set by the panel convenor and depend on what outstanding issues there are. Jo also noted that the

Fast Track website has general information about the process, and it also updates each applications progress through their processes.

- Jo promised to send link to entire application via link the Fast Track website which includes the final construction noise assessment and management plan.

4 Noise Management Plan

4.1 Noise Enquiries Summary

Eight complaints (summarised by James):

Two from Strathmore Park:

- One in relation to aircraft noise just after 1am which came from two flights in short succession. These were a disrupted flight and a medical emergency.
- The other complaint related to constant low level machinery noise during the night in the past few months. At this point there had been little night work at the airport, and I offered to investigate further if they had more information. However, no further response was received.
- James D confirmed both complaints came from separate Raukawa Street properties.

Two from Kaiwharawhara:

- In relation to a compliant overhead flight and medical emergency aircraft during curfew.

One from Seatoun:

Relating to construction noise during the night – WIAL confirmed that there were no construction works that night and even if there were it would be unlikely to be heard from as far away as Seatoun One from Miramar (Devonshire Road):

Complainant called Airport Operations and states there is a loud, droning sound that is highly disruptive. Operations immediately investigated and the only works occurring at that time was rubber removal on the western side of the runway. Given the location and noise output of works, it was unclear whether the noise was actually coming from the Airport. In any case, the Operations Process Manager confirmed that they moved the noise shield in attempt to reduce any noise. One from Karori:

- About overhead (compliant) aircraft flying too low and creating too much noise.

One from Korokoro:

- Noticed increase in air traffic overhead and wanted to know if there had been a change in flight path. Confirmed there have been no change to flight paths.

4.2 Summary of Curfew Movements

Nothing to report/No other comments.

5 System Reports:

5.1 Ldn Graph

- The drop in Ldn at the Maupuia noise monitor (NMT 2) during October and November was a result of high wind conditions. Envirosuite confirmed that the high wind event count matches the low Ldn days for NMT 2. There were also notably less aircraft movements during these exceptionally windy days.

5.2 NMT Operational Analysis

- It was also noted by a resident rep that there were some days in October where they average daily noise was higher than 65Db Ldn at the Rongotai noise monitor (NMT1). This was also during exceptionally windy days with little aircraft movement.

***ACTION:** James D to ask Envirosuite to look in to improved accuracy of Ldn measurements during exceptionally windy days. A note will also be made on the reasoning why a daily Ldn is getting close to or exceeding 65 dBA LDN for future system reports.*

6 Quieter Homes Update

- Construction in Area 5 is progressing at a pace of one house every four weeks. WIAL are still receiving a few late applications for Areas 3 and 4.
- The indicative timeframe for rollout to Area 6 is currently scheduled for next year.

7 New Airport Fire Station (AFS) Operational Noise Management Plan update

- Construction of the new AFS is complete and the expected operation commencement date is 16 December 2025.
- During the whole construction, only one complaint was received. Overall successful construction project and delivered to schedule.
- The main purpose of the Operational Noise Management Plan is to provide guidance to the Airport Fire Service on the management of noise generating activities that may be noticeable to nearby households – i.e. routine testing of equipment and alarm systems.
- Key mitigation measures include specific locations, timeframes and duration for testing of equipment and outdoor alarms. All equipment and alarm systems can only be tested between 10am and 12pm, during the less noise sensitive hours of the day.
- There are also other general courtesy measures for the fire crew follow, minimize any unnecessary noise.
- The plan also includes measures for handling complaints that are either received via the airport noise inbox or in person at the AFS.

- Lastly, there is a section outlining the process for monitoring and reporting operational noise at the fire station which will be included as part of the land-based noise monitoring program which is carried out every 2 years.

Questions:

- A resident rep stated the timeframes in the noise criteria were difficult to read /understand. The timeframes are representative of daytime (i.e. 7am to 10pm) and nighttime (i.e. 10pm – 7am or ‘all other times’). This is the land-based noise criteria set by Wellington City Council and is part of the Airport’s Main Site Area Designation (and also contained in the WCC District Plan).
- A resident rep enquired what the difference is between the two different units of noise measurement referred to in the noise criteria (dB LAEQ (15 MIN) and dB LAEQ max). The dB LAEQ (15 MIN) unit refers to the average noise level over a 15-minute period. The dB LAEQ max unit refers to the highest instantaneous sound level of a single noise event. These are outlined in Section 3.1 of the Operational Noise Management Plan.
- The Air NZ rep asked if there is a likelihood that real emergencies will exceed the noise criteria. James D confirmed there is a likelihood. However, the external alarm system will be programmed so that no outside alarms will be sounded between 10pm and 7am. This will assist in reducing the likelihood of exceeding the noise limits during the night. The Air NZ rep suggested a minor amendment to the Operational Noise Management Plan to acknowledge that emergency scenarios may lead to an exceedance in the noise criteria.
- ***ACTION:*** James D, in conjunction with WCC to look into whether the AFS operational noise management plan needs to be amended to acknowledge that the noise criteria may be exceeded during an emergency scenario, and if so whether needs further WCC approval.

8 General Business

8.1 DMAPS:

- Waiting on High Court judge’s decision, which is due early in the new year.

8.2 EMAS:

- The EMAS project is progressing as scheduled and expected to finish in March 2026. There are still some works with more noticeable noise occurring in the new year. The installation of EMAS blocks however, is not considered to generate a high level of noise.
- A resident rep stated that a Moa Point resident had noticed a lot more noise at night in recent months, however, was only an observation and not a complaint. This was a few months ago so may have been associated with seawall maintenance works.

9 The meeting closed at 6:16pm.

The next meeting is Monday 9th March 2026, 5:30 pm

ANMC ACTIONS

Date Action generated	Action	By whom	Due
13/03/2023	Patrick to invite Hugh Pierce (AIRNZ) to ANMC meeting to provide a presentation to the committee on take-off procedures	PW	Ongoing
13/03/2023	DMAPS Update	WIAL/Airways	Ongoing as required
08/12/2025	WIAL to ask Envirosuite to look in to improved accuracy of LDN measurements during exceptionally windy days.	WIAL	09/03/2026
08/12/2025	WIAL to ask Envirosuite to make a note on Daily Ldn table (contained in the monthly report) reasons for any days that show the Ldn exceeding or getting close to 65 dBA e.g. exceptionally windy days with minimal aircraft movements		
08/09/2025	WIAL to discuss with WCC whether to amend the AFS operational noise management plan to acknowledge that the noise criteria may be exceeded during an emergency scenario.	WIAL WCC	ASAP

2026 Meeting Schedule (2nd Monday of months March/June/September/December)

Monday 9th March

Monday 8th June

Monday 14th September

Monday 14th December