

WELLINGTON AIR NOISE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MEETING NOTES Monday 8 June 2026

Present:

Lindsay Daysh – Convenor

Eric Morgan – Air New Zealand/Airline (via TEAMS)

Lindsay Hannah – Wellington City Council Representative

Edward Dyer – Wellington City Council Representative

Craig Redpath – Life Flight Trust

Helen Salisbury – Western Resident representative

Jason Colton – Eastern Resident representative

Robin Boldarin - Eastern Resident representative (via TEAMS)

Aaron Gilmore – Western Resident representative

Tim Whitehead - Airways NZ (via TEAMS)

Jo Lester – WIAL Planning Manager

James Dobson – WIAL Environmental Compliance Planner

Nannette Dempsey – WIAL People & Community Manager

Apologies/Not present:

Patrick Whelan (deputised to Eric Morgan)

1 Welcome:

1.1 The meeting commenced at 6:03pm.

2 Minutes of the Last Meeting:

2.1 The minutes of the last meeting (March 2026) were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Jason Colton

Seconded: Aaron Gilmore

ANMC Actions Update (from previous meeting):

Date Action generated	Action	By whom & when due	Update
13/03/2023	DMAPS Update	WIAL Due: June 2026 meeting	Refer to update in Section 3.1 below.
09/03/2026	WIAL to ask Envirosuite (now 'Ideagen') to - look into past high wind events and confirm the threshold for high wind events. - clarify whether the NMT 2 monitor has wind modification.	WIAL Due: June 2026 meeting	Refer to update in Section 3.2 below.
09/03/2026	WIAL to check resident rep Gmail inbox and reshare login details with resident reps.	WIAL Due: ASAP	Refer to update in Section 3.3 below.
09/03/2026	Jo L to provide an update on the implications of the new District Plan noise contours on the Quieter Homes programme, including modelling.	WIAL Due: June 2026 meeting	Refer to update in Section 3.4 below.
09/03/2026	- WIAL to reshare the response from WCC to the questions raised in relation to the 2024 land-based noise monitoring methodology. - WCC representative to also confirm if their stance on the methodology has changed. - WIAL to present results of monitoring report at the next meeting	WIAL/WCC Due: ASAP WIAL Due: June 2026 meeting	Refer to update in Section 3.5 below

3 Actions update:

3.1 High Court decision for the Divergent Missed Approach Protection System (DMAPS) flight path change (Jo L):

- On Friday 5 June, the High Court released its judicial review decision on the lawfulness of implementing DMAPS flight path in December 2022. The High Court has dismissed Plane Sense's challenge in full. All grounds against all three parties — Airways, CAA and the Airport — failed. The DMAPS flight path stand, and the Airports December 2024 decision to keep supporting the current flight path was found to be reasonable.
- The decision confirmed the Airport's noise role is limited with respect to flight paths and overflying aircraft: that is to investigate complaints and any breaches of the noise abatement procedures and raise them with the operator, and that compliance itself sits with the pilots and airlines, not the airport.
- No comments from the Committee.

3.2 Threshold for high wind events (James D):

- Ideagen confirmed that noise events at NMT2 (Maupuia monitor) are processed as wind events when the wind speed exceeds 10 m/s. Above this threshold, the noise events are no longer correlated to the aircraft operations.
- James D has asked Ideagen to confirm that this is the correct wind speed, as 10 m/s is not considered a high wind speed for Wellington. Ideagen's response will be shared once received.
- A resident rep asked whether it is a choice to set the threshold for high wind events or if this is a technical limitation.
- A committee member also asked to confirm how often they maintain/ replace the wind shields for the noise monitors.

ACTION: James D to ask Ideagen to confirm if it is a choice to set the threshold for high wind events or a technical issue with the noise monitors. Ideagen to also confirm how often they maintain/ replace wind shields.

3.3 Resident rep Gmail inbox (James D):

- The resident rep e-mail inbox has been reinstated with two resident reps (Helen and Jason) overseeing it. A resident rep raised that there was difficulty accessing the inbox due to a two-factor authentication requirement.

ACTION: Jo L to ask WIAL IT department to see if they can remove the two-factor authentication requirement.

3.4 New Noise contours implications on Quieter Homes Programme (Jo L):

- Following the call for proposals from various acoustic consultants, Tonkin + Taylor (T+T) were recently appointed to carry out the required modelling. They are currently gathering data to prepare the modelling.

ACTION: Jo L to provide information in relation to the modelling at the next ANMC meeting.

3.5 Land-based noise monitoring methodology and 2026 report (James D):

- On 10March (the day after the March ANMC meeting), James D reshared the response from WCC to the questions raised about the 2024 land-based noise monitoring methodology. WCC confirmed their stance had not changed on the matter, provided that the acoustic specialist (T+T) clearly explains how the monitoring represents typical operations. This is shown in the recent 2026 reporting.
- Noise monitoring was carried out in late March with further daytime monitoring carried out for the fire station in early April. Recorded data analysis revealed that land-based airport noise could not be distinguished from ambient background noise at most monitoring locations.
- Based on the data and reporting, WCC confirmed that land-based airport noise is operating in compliance with applicable noise limits and was assessed in accordance with Section 6.4 of the Airport Noise Management Plan ('the plan'). No additional routine monitoring is recommended at this time, and we'll continue with biennial monitoring (next due in 2028) and a complaint-triggered monitoring pathway retained as appropriate.

- A resident rep asked whether it is the GPU (Ground Power Unit) or APU (Auxiliary Power Unit) noise that is generated from the aircraft. James D confirmed that APU noise comes from aircraft, noting that both types of power units are managed under a different noise framework than land based noise.

4 Noise Management Plan

4.1 Noise Enquiries Summary

- Ten complaints (summarised by James D):
 - Four came from the West/North-West of the Airport: 2 from Roseneath in relation to standard visual approaches conducted by a medical emergency aircraft and Chatham's Air. Chatham's Air was reminded of community considerations when making visual approaches.
 - 1 from Rongotai in relation to idling construction vehicles adjacent to Bridge Street as part of EMAS night works. The vehicles were moved away, and complainant was appreciative of response.
 - 1 from Southgate wondering what a loud whining noise was, noting there weren't any planes on the runway. Could not confirm what the source of the noise was but may have been from an APU.
- Three to the east of the airport:
 - A complaint from Strathmore Park in relation to an aircraft undertaking an engine run which was carried out in accordance with ANMP procedures. Complainant also mentioned he had raised noise enquiries with the airport noise committee, but he was unable to confirm if he was meaning the resident rep email address. The complainant was followed up with again, with no response. The Strathmore Park resident rep confirmed they had not been contacted by the complainant.
 - 1 from Maupuia about EMAS night works – line marking removal. Complainant was threatening and not cooperative, but contractors repositioned the noise barriers in response.
 - Another complaint from Strathmore Park about loud aircraft idling on airport apron for a long period late. This was in relation to Police/NZDF training.
- 3 beyond the Air Noise Boundaries in relation to overhead flights – 2 medical and one in relation to police/NZDF training.

4.2 Summary of Curfew Movements

Nothing to report/No other comments.

4.3 Annual Engine Testing Audit (FY26) (James D)

- As required by Section 5.4. of the ANMP, details of all engine tests between 8pm and 11pm during FY26 were provided to the committee.
- James D summarised:
 - Seven engine tests were carried out between 8pm and 11pm during FY26.
 - All essential and non-scheduled.
 - All compliant with ANMP
 - No complaints received for these tests.

5 System Reports:

5.1 Ldn Graph

Nothing to report/No other comments.

5.2 NMT Operational Analysis

Nothing to report/No other comments.

6 Quieter Homes Programme Update (March to May 2026)

- James D provided an update on progress with WANT
 - Construction is still ongoing in Area 5.
 - An upcoming construction date is scheduled for a property in Area 4. Scheduling has been challenging due to the property being tenanted.
 - Have received some interest from homeowners in Area 3. This includes one prospective purchaser and one existing homeowner for whom an inspection has been completed and the acoustic design prepared; however, follow-up communications regarding next steps were not received.
- A resident rep asked if properties in Area 6 depicted on the most recent Quieter Homes roll out map will still be given offers this year. We are waiting for the outcome of modelling data that is currently being processed.
- Jo L added that several inquiries were received from people wanting to apply for resource consent for constructing three dwellings within the Air Noise Boundary. WIAL will not be giving written approvals to them.

7 General Business

7.1 Airport Noise Management Plan (ANMP) Review (James D)

- Section 10 of the ANMP requires the Plan to be reviewed at least every three years (as per Section 10 of the Plan). This is intended to assess whether the plan remains effective, up to date, and fit for purpose.
- The review focusses on whether any targeted amendments are needed to improve clarity, reflect recent operational changes, and strengthen how the plan deals with matters that have come up through ANMC discussions.
- The overall impression is that the ANMP has generally been functioning as intended, with most issues being managed within the existing framework rather than pointing to the need for major structural change.
- A section of the review addresses the ANMC's functioning. Committee members are encouraged to provide feedback on the review, and in particular this section.
- The review also identified several targeted updates to keep the Plan current, including amendments to reflect the operative District Plan requirements, the withdrawal of Designation WIAL 3 (Runway End Safety Area), and the introduction of the Airport Fire Station Operational Noise Management Plan.

- In addition, as the Quieter Homes Programme is currently being updated, this will require a further update to the ANMP. As such, there needs to be consideration as to whether this review is finalised following completion of the Quieter Homes Programme update.
- A resident rep also asked whether this would include a review of the airport-wide Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan. This is an Appendix to the Airport Noise Management Plan and does not form part of the review.

ACTION: ANMC members to provide any feedback on the ANMP review by 30 June.

7.2 Airport Fire Station Operational Noise Management Plan (AFS ONMP) updates (James D):

- Two updates to the AFS ONMP:
 - Minor update to reflect latest equipment on site and testing locations after it came to light that certain equipment listed are no longer used or not tested regularly. Testing of equipment is also now mainly in the wash bay which is shown as Location 2 in the Plan.
 - An indoor emergency alarm test must be undertaken by Air Traffic Control at the Fire Station immediately after any major IT network update to ensure everything is operational once complete.
 - The updates must happen during the Airport's curfew so that it causes the least disruption to operations if it fails. They are infrequent but there is no definitive schedule. AFS staff will be forewarned by Air Traffic Control so that they can ensure all doors are closed during the alarm test. Neighbours will also be provided the opportunity to be regularly notified of the time and date of upcoming upgrades via the weekly night works notification email.

7.3 Southern Seawall Renewal Project Fast Track Consent (Jo L)

- The independent expert panel under the Fast-track Approvals Act has granted approval, subject to conditions, on 15 May 2026.
- The panel's decision can be appealed to the High Court on questions of law only, within 20 working days of the decision being published. That takes it to 15 June, with additional 5 days to serve on WIAL (i.e. until 22 June).
- Enabling works start this year (mostly relates to planting of the Korora Stage 1 colony); the main seawall construction is planned for the 2029 to early-2030s period.
- A Construction Noise Management Plan has been drafted which needs to be submitted to council 20 Working Days prior to commencement of the relevant works. The committee has already seen the draft.
- A dedicated community construction liaison group will be established and WIAL keep communicating closely with neighbours, especially ahead of major work periods.

7.4 EMAS (James D)

- Existing EMAS works are limited in scope for finishing touches and involve line marking removal and earthworks for cabling and lighting on both ends of the runway. This will gradually be isolated to the south. Expected to be complete by the end of July, subject to weather and scheduling

8 The meeting closed at approximately 6:40pm.

The next ANMC meeting will be held on 14 September at 5:30pm.

ANMC ACTIONS

Date Action generated	Action	By whom	Due
08/06/2026	Ideagen to clarify in relation to threshold for high wind events. Ideagen to confirm if it is a choice to set the threshold for high wind events or a technical issue with the noise monitors. Ideagen to confirm how often they maintain/replace wind shields.	WIAL	ASAP
08/06/2026	WIAL to investigate the removal of two-factor authentication for resident rep Gmail inbox.	WIAL	ASAP
09/03/2026	Jo L to provide an update on the implications of the new District Plan noise contours on the Quieter Homes programme, including modelling.	WIAL	14/09/2026
08/06/2026	ANMC members to provide feedback on the ANMP review.	ANMC	30/06/2026

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

Monday 14th September

Monday 14th December