



Liverpool John Lennon Airport Consultative Committee

Date:	Friday, 17 September 2021
Time:	10.30 a.m.
Venue:	Cavern Suite - Liverpool Airport L24 1YD and on Microsoft Teams

Contact Officer: Mike Jones, Secretary
Tel: 0151 691 8363
e-mail: MichaelJones1@wirral.gov.uk
Website: www.wirral.gov.uk

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES**
2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**
3. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**
4. **MINUTES (Pages 1 - 22)**

To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Consultative Committee held on 21 May 2021 and to receive the minutes of the Noise Monitoring Sub-Committee held on 16 July 2021, attached.

5. **MEMBERSHIP**

To note any changes in membership since the last meeting and consider any issues of non-attendance.

6. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

The Chairman can be asked a question, and can:

- Answer the question directly or ask another appropriate member of the Committee to answer, and allow supplementary question(s)
- Place an item on the agenda for the next appropriate meeting to deal with issues raised by the question.
- Decide where in the meeting the question shall be dealt with

- Amend the time allowed for questions, which is normally 30 minutes
- Agree that an answer be provided in writing rather than at the meeting
- Refuse to hear a question where less than 3 days' notice is given to the Secretariat
- Refuse to hear a question if it does not relate to the business and responsibilities of the Committee
- Vary any of the procedures about questions to help the effective conduct of the business of the meeting.

7. QUARTERLY BUSINESS REPORT (Pages 23 - 26)

To receive the Quarterly Report by the Airport Company, attached.

8. CUSTOMER SERVICES UPDATE

Update from Robin Tudor, Head of Public Relations.

9. AIRSPACE CHANGE PROCESS

Update by Andrew Dutton, Head of Environment.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

To note the correspondence received by the Secretary for the Committee since the last meeting and the responses made by the Airport Company.

11. MEMBERS ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

This is Committee members opportunity to raise issues which can be discussed with the Airport if they have potential to affect the Airport or would be of interest to the whole Committee and are not covered elsewhere on the agenda. These can be items they are aware of within their organisation or locally such as new developments, changes to the economy or to a relevant industry.

Items should be forwarded to Mike Jones by 5pm two days before the meeting (i.e. **5pm on Wednesday 15 September**) so they can be considered.

The Chairman will make the final decision whether to take items.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting is Friday 26 November 2021 at 10.30 am.
(PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE FROM 19 NOVEMBER)

LIVERPOOL JOHN LENNON AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Friday, 21 May 2021

PRESENT:

Bob Swann, Chairman
Councillor Caroline Ashton, Frodsham Council
Councillor Tony Brennan, Knowsley Council
Michelle Cameron, Liverpool & Sefton Chamber of Commerce
Norman Elias, Vice Chairman/Passenger rep
Councillor Michael Green, Lancashire Council
Councillor Liz Grey, Wirral Council
Stan Hill, Halton Council
Keith Levin, LAGAUA
Jordi Morell, passenger rep
Alex Naughton, Combined Authority
Simon Osborne, National Trust
Councillor Lynn Riley, Cheshire West and Chester Council
Councillor Michael Roche, Sefton Council
Tony Rice, Disabled Persons
Councillor Steve Parish, Warrington Council

Liverpool Airport:

Andrew Dutton, Head of Environment
Christina Smith, Customer Services
Robin Tudor, Head of Public Relations

Secretariat:

Mike Jones, Secretary

16 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from:
Councillor David Baines, St Helens Council
Councillor Chris Ellams, Helsby Council
Councillor Yvonne Graves, Halewood
Therese Irving, Wirral Older People's Parliament
Stephen Pearse, Friends of Liverpool Airport
Councillor Malcolm Spargo, Hale Council

17 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of personal interests.

18 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no Chairman's announcements.

19 MINUTES

In relation to item 3 in the Consultative Committee minutes, the Chairman asked that people refer to him as Chair or Chairman in future as he regarded the word Chairman as the title of the role. This could be reviewed if someone else took over the role.

Members asked whether the Airport was involved in any of the local work or partnerships in developing hydrogen as a fuel. Andrew Dutton explained that the Airport was not involved individually but via the Combined Authority. It was suggested that the topic could be included in a report in the future.

Resolved: That

- (1) the minutes of the meeting of the Consultative Committee held on 19 February 2021 be agreed; and**
- (2) the minutes of the Noise Monitoring Sub-Committee held on 23 April 2021 be received.**

20 MEMBERSHIP

Mike Jones announced two changes in membership since the last meeting:

1. North Cheshire Rail Users Group - Cedric Green asked to be removed. The Group would still be updated when needed via the Chairman Bob Swann, and they retained membership of the Surface Access meetings through another member.
2. Halewood Town Council - Following their AGM on 13 May, Councillor Yvonne Graves was appointed as its principle representative and Councillor Andrew Hesford as its deputy representative.

Councillor Stan Hill announced that this would be his last meeting as Halton Council had a new representative. The Chairman wished him well and thanked him for his regular attendance and participation at meetings.

21 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present and no questions had been submitted in advance.

22 QUARTERLY BUSINESS REPORT

Robin Tudor talked through his quarterly report. Key points included:

- There had been little change since the last meeting, with passenger numbers 96% down on pre-covid levels, in common with many airports because of the effective ban on international leisure travel.

- Daily flights continued to the Isle of Man for healthcare access and to Belfast also, in addition to a small number of international flights to mainly Eastern European destinations.
- The Government had announced a traffic light system for international travel but of the 12 countries on the 'green' list only Portugal was an existing destination from Liverpool, and costs were onerous for testing on returning. It was hoped that there would be reconsideration on rules at the end of June.
- Restrictions in other countries varied and was a further disincentive.
- A positive sign was the commitment and plans from airline partners to grow their services as soon as they could, with a number of new services announced by airlines.
- Freight had been relatively high in January and February but reduced in March, partly because of restricted opening hours at the Airport.
- The Airport had introduced an employee assistance program to protect health and wellbeing of employees.
- International Women's Day had been celebrated at the Airport in March promoting opportunities for women in the airport industry.
- The Airport Transport Forum had met and received updates from transport companies and the combined authority.
- A car park had been used by an outdoor entertainment company to host drive-in films and live entertainment.

Keith Levin raised the issue of the increase in fees for General Aviation. Most were understandable but there had been a 100% increase for 'touch and go' training flights. When added to the landing fee and aeroplane hire it made training prohibitively expensive. (post-meeting note: The Airport looked into these issues and responded directly to Keith to clarify that there had been no increase in charges from April 2021 with all charges frozen from the last financial year, in addition to a 40% discount continuing to be offered on all pricing for based operators. A 75% discount is in place for 'touch and go' operations, which cost £6 as opposed to the £24 reported at the meeting. The Airport had therefore asked the general aviation community for specific examples of any perceived overcharging which they can investigate further, as they are unaware of any operators disputing charges made to date)

23 **CUSTOMER SERVICES UPDATE**

Christina Smith provided an update on customer service activity. There remained significantly lower customer contacts due to uncertainties about travel. Amendments had continued due to changes to flights. Queries had focussed on uncertainty of requirements which were likely to come into effect for future travel plans. To answer those, the Airport had provided links to Government and airline website as rather than direct advice as advice changed over time. Christina had noted that many people were taking credit links rather than a refund in the expectation that they could use them in future.

Regarding accessibility issues, it had been noted that regular recognised travellers with reduced mobility had not been seen but there had been an increase in customers who had not booked assistance previously and those with hidden conditions such as autism. The proportion requiring assistance had increased because of the continued regular medical flights with the Isle of Man and the reduction in tourist travel.

24 **AIRSPACE CHANGE PROCESS**

Andrew Dutton provided a brief update on the airspace change process. The restarting of the process was being co-ordinated by ACOG (Airspace Change Organisation Group) who had the intention of bringing several other schemes to the same level before all restarted. Progression of the Liverpool Airport Airspace Change process was dependent on third Parties. Therefore, there was no certainty on timescales. However, implementation if successful was unlikely to be until Winter 2022/2023 at the earliest.

25 **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence to report.

26 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

27 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next scheduled meeting was Friday 17 September 2021 at 10.30 am. It may be face-to-face if that was advisable at that time, although there may be an option for online participation.

NOISE MONITORING SUB-COMMITTEE

Friday, 16 July 2021

Minutes

PRESENT:

Norman Elias, Chair

Ian Gaskell, Environmental Health, Knowsley Council

David King-Hele, Environmental Health, Wirral Council

Tony Rice, Disabled Persons

Ian Rushforth Environmental Health, Liverpool Council

Bob Swann, Chairman of Consultative Committee

Liverpool Airport

Andrew Dutton, Head of Environment

Colin Barnes

Secretariat

Mike Jones, Secretary

12 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence had been received from:

Helen Bradshaw, Environmental Health, Knowsley Council

Peter Hargreaves, Environmental Health, Cheshire West and Chester Council

Isobel Mason, Environmental Health, Halton Council

Councillor Malcolm Spargo, Hale Parish Council

PRESENT:

Norman Elias, Chair

Ian Gaskell, Environmental Health, Knowsley Council

David King-Hele, Environmental Health, Wirral Council

Tony Rice, Disabled Persons

Ian Rushforth, Environmental Health, Liverpool Council

Bob Swann, Chairman of Consultative Committee

Liverpool Airport

Andrew Dutton, Head of Environment

Colin Barnes

Secretariat

Mike Jones, Secretary

13 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interests.

14 **CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP**

There were no changes in membership to report.

15 **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

Resolved -

that the minutes of the meeting of the Noise Monitoring Sub-Committee held on 23 April 2021 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

16 **NOISE COMPLAINTS LOG**

Andrew Dutton talked through slides, attached, of the Noise Log. Seven complaints had been received which was less than before the Covid-19 pandemic. Most concerned private aircraft, helicopters and military covering a wide geographical area. One slide compared the volume of aircraft movements for a week in June 2019, 2020 and 2021. The 2021 figures were around 70% less than in 2019.

Resolved –

that the noise complaints between 1 April 2021 and 30 June 2021 be noted.

17 **AIRSPACE CHANGE**

Andrew Dutton provided a short update on the Airspace Change process (ACP). This was officially 'paused' in November as the neighbouring ACP sponsors had furloughed their staff. An update leaflet had been produced by Liverpool Airport to update stakeholders.

Resolved –

that the update on Airspace Change be noted.

18 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next scheduled meeting was Friday 22 October 2021 at 10.30 am. A decision would be made closer to the date to decide whether to hold it in person or online.

19 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Ian Gaskell reported that he had received complaints from a Knowsley resident covering several months about a low frequency noise heard for several hours in the early hours of the morning on several days, notably 12 June and 15 July. The complainant thought it may originate at the Airport.

Andrew Dutton explained the aircraft noise would be intermittent and was very unlikely to be at night but he would check the fixed noise monitor in Hale at the times noted.

Members speculated on potential causes such as: a generator; snow equipment; building works at Hunt's Cross Station; an air conditioning unit; a pump; a refrigeration unit. It was noted that a national newspaper had carried an article on low frequency hums: [What is the mysterious 'global Hum' – and is it simply noise pollution? | Cities | The Guardian](#).

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Noise Monitoring Sub Committee

16th July 2021



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With over 70 destinations to fly to, where will you go next?
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Minute Item 16

Noise Log

April 2021 to June 2021

Noise Complaint Log Summary

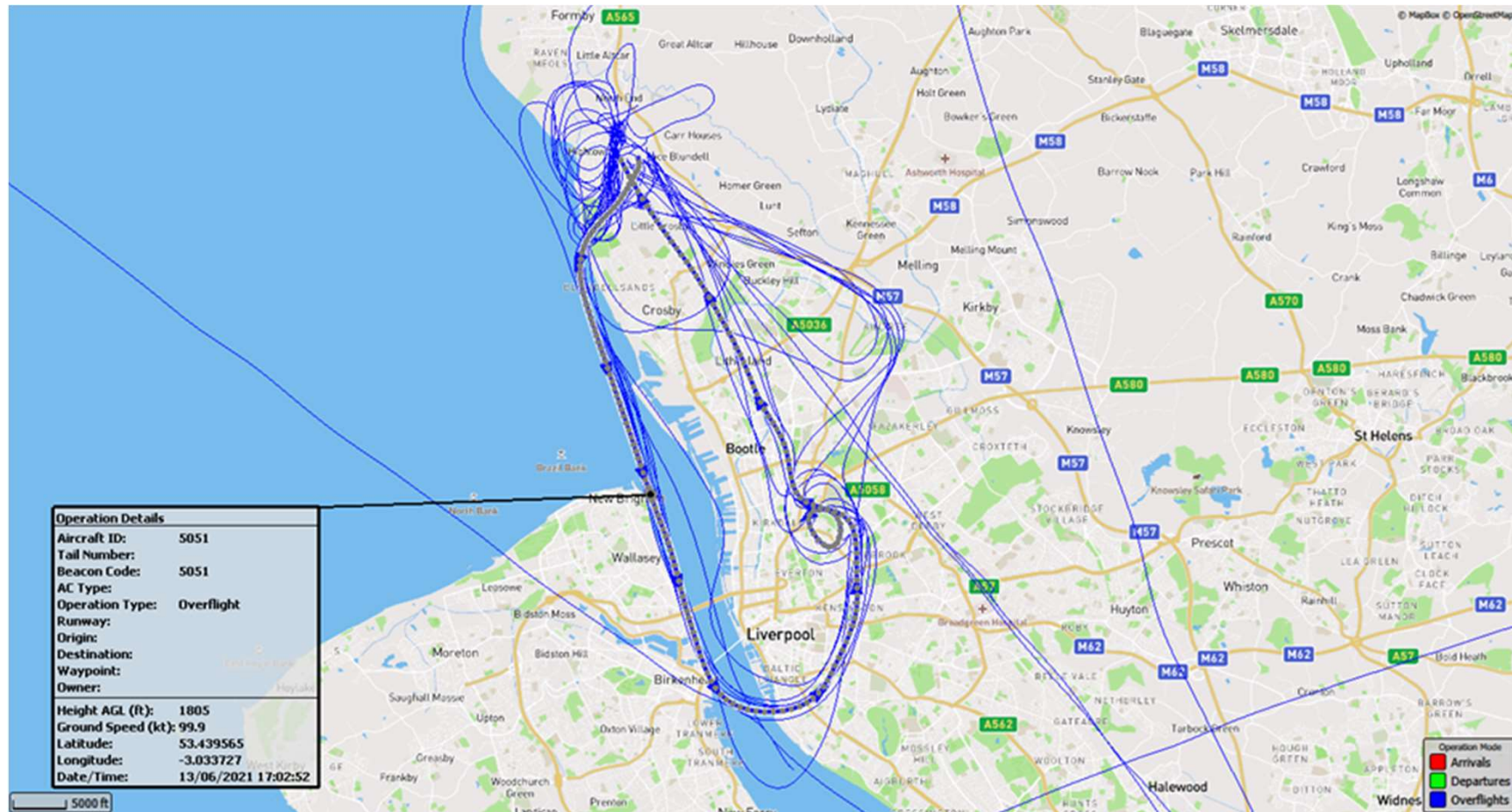
- 7 noise complaints between Apr – Jun'21
- In comparison less complaints than pre-pandemic
- More interest in helicopters & private aircraft movements
- Complaints from received from Cheshire East, Denbighshire, Halton, Liverpool, Sefton & Wirral areas

With over 70 destinations to fly to, where will you go next?

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Leisure Flights Noise Complaint Helicopter Tracks

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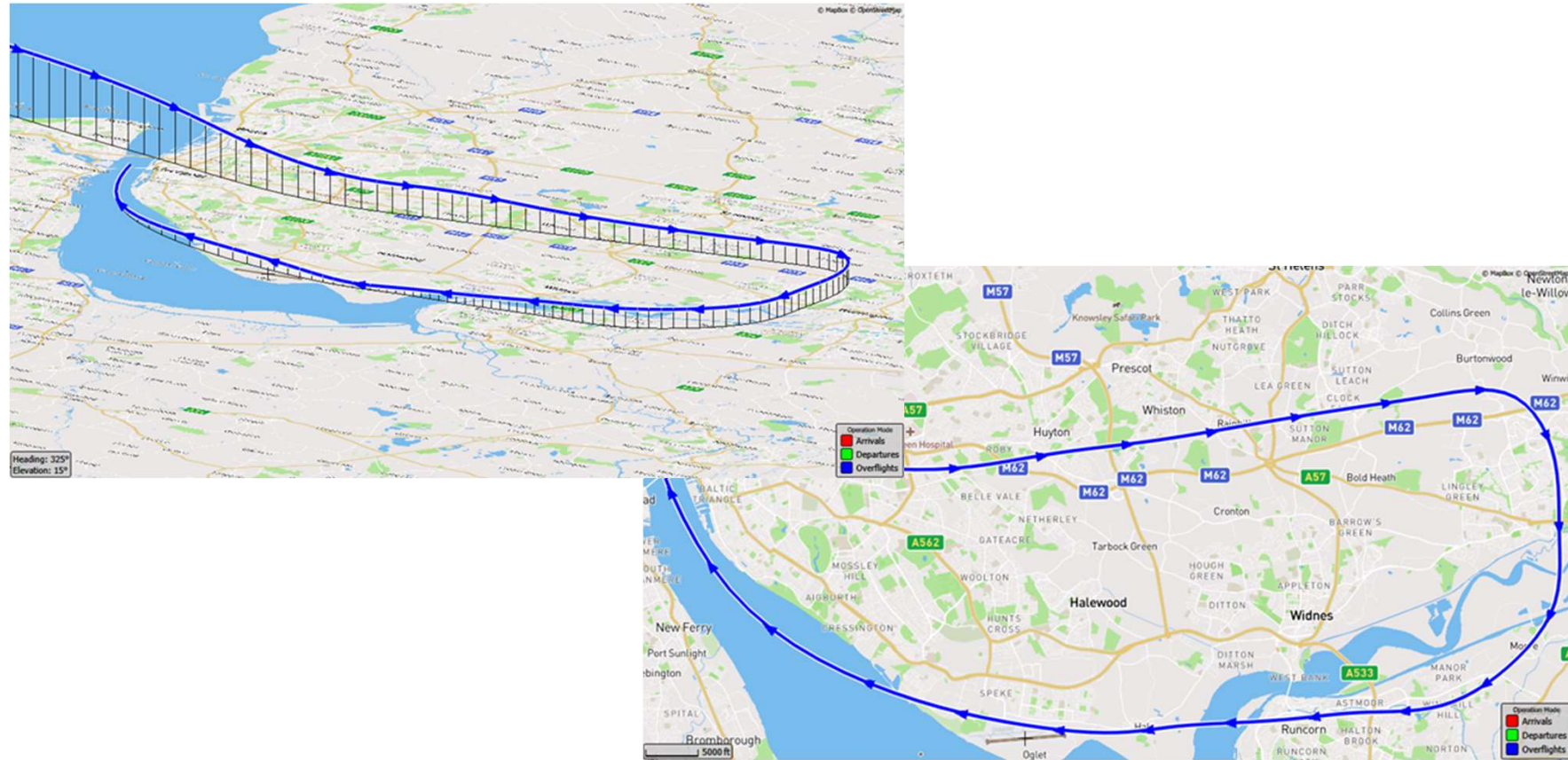
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Hawk Noise Complaint – 17th June 2021

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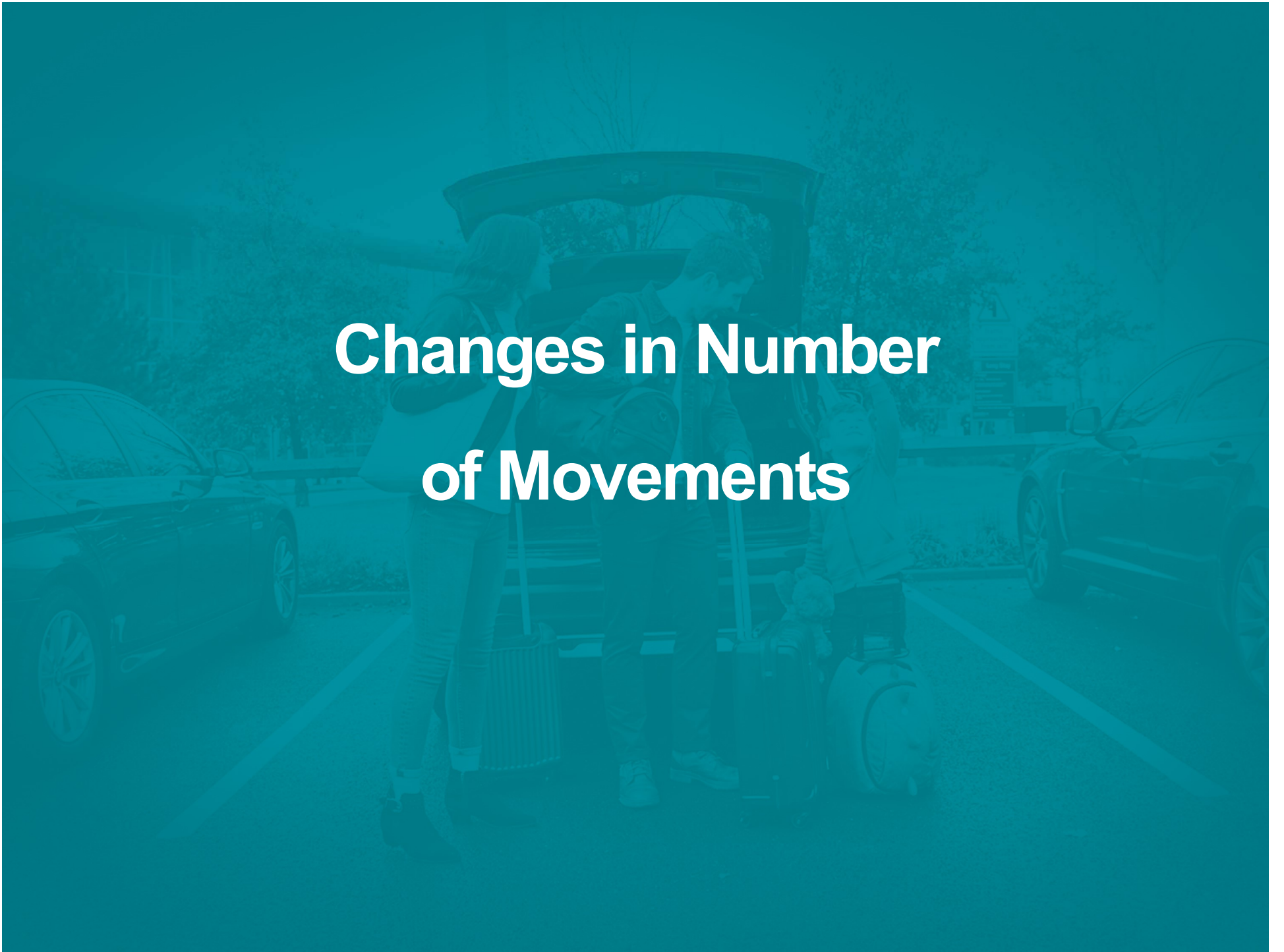


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Changes in Number of Movements

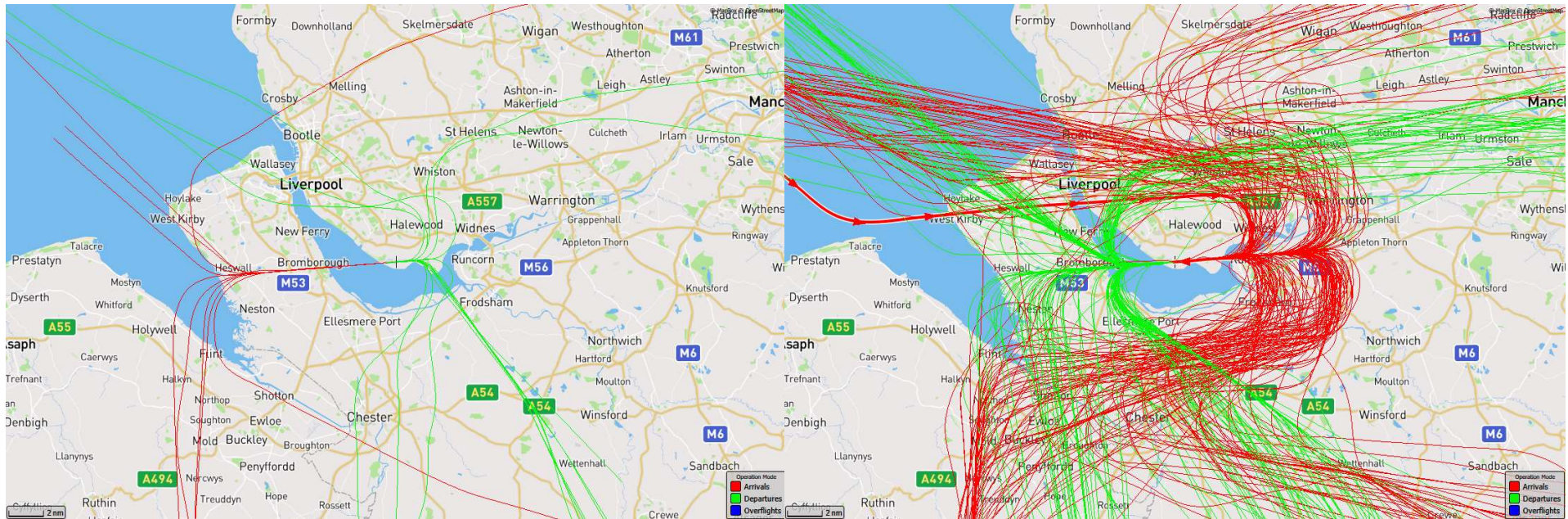


LJLA Schedule Aircraft Movements 15th to 21st June 2019

easyJet, Ryanair & Wizz

Runway 09

Runway 27



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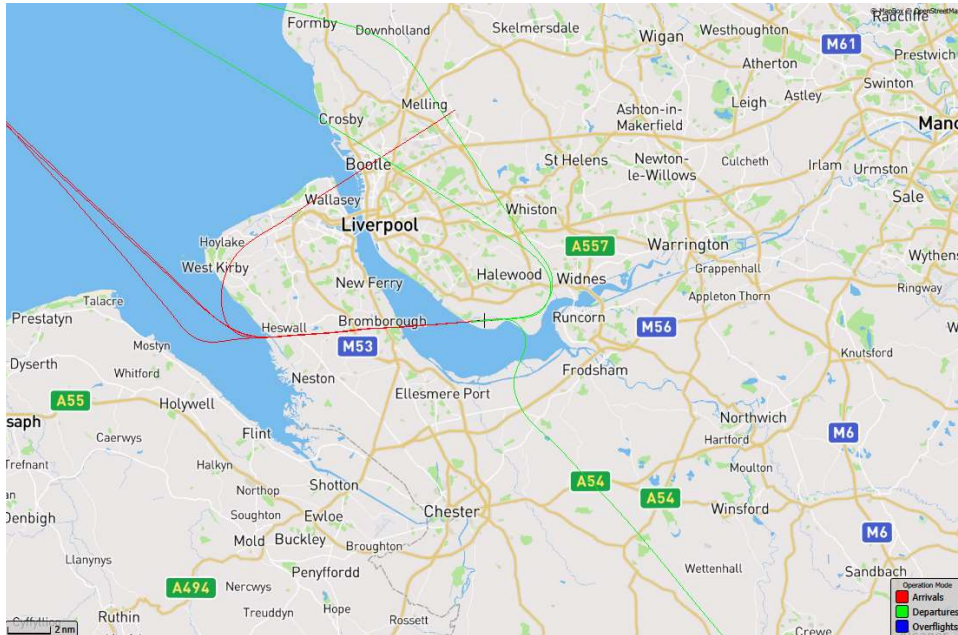
LJLA All Schedule Aircraft Movements 15th – 21st June 2020

easyJet, FlyBe, Ryanair & Wizz

Runway 09

Runway 27

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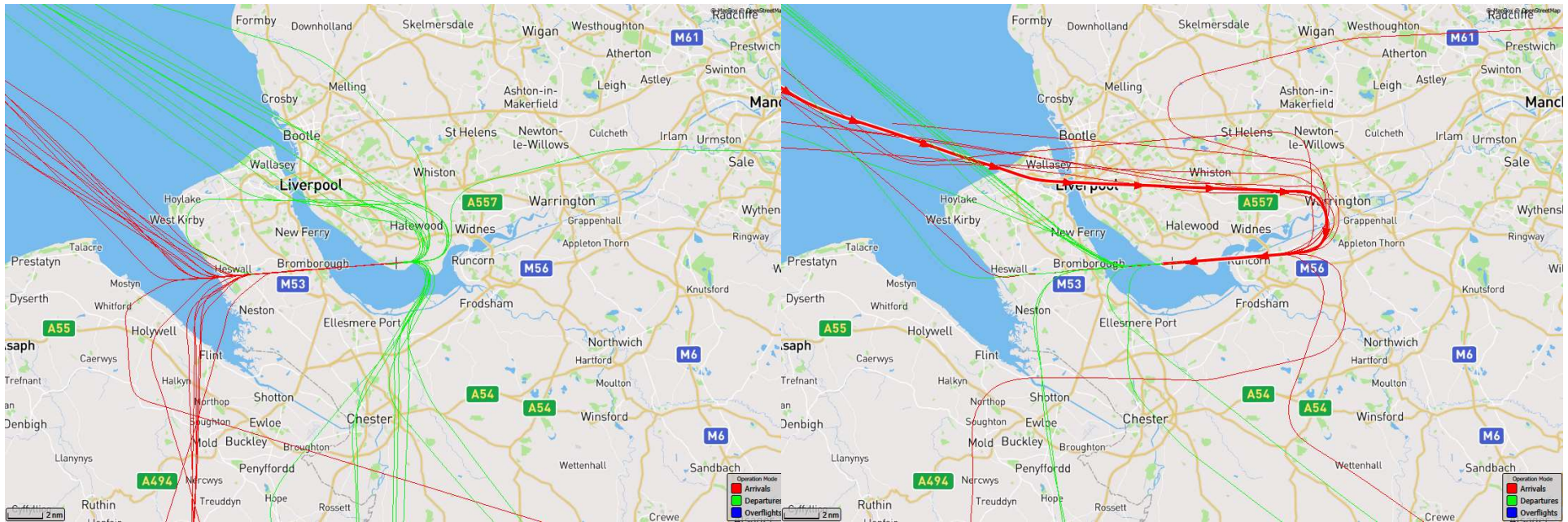
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LJLA All Schedule Aircraft Movements 15th – 21st June 2021

easyJet, FlyBe, Ryanair & Wizz

Runway 09

Runway 27



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With over 70 destinations to fly to, where will you go next?

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Scheduled Flying Program (W/C 19th July 21)

- Blue Air – 2
- easyJet – 74
- Ryanair – 94
- Loganair – 22
- Wizz – 8
- Total of 200 schedule aircraft movements
- Approximately 70% down compared to July 2019

With over 70 destinations to fly to, where will you go next?

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LJLA Airspace Change Proposal



ACP Refresh

- **ACP started in February 2018?**
- **LJLA ACP Paused – November 2020**
- **CAA Airspace Change Portal - Airspace change portal (caa.co.uk)**
- **Airspace Change Organising Group (ACOG) – National Co-ordination and the Development of a Master Plan**
- **Update newsletter (next slide)**

With over 70 destinations to fly to, where will you go next?

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ACP Info-Sheet Update



With over 70 destinations to fly to, where will you go next?
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QUARTERLY BUSINESS REPORT

1.0 Airport update

Commercial passenger traffic

Whilst lockdown measures have largely been eased or removed altogether across many areas of society during most of the second quarter of this year and on into the Summer months, unfortunately international travel has continued to be impacted due to various restrictions and controls remaining in place.

As a consequence, passenger volumes and numbers of flights remain considerably below pre-covid levels. Over the period April to August, passenger numbers were down by 82% compared to the same period in 2019, though higher than last year, with 424,782 passengers passing through the Airport during the period as shown in the table below.

Month	2021	2020	Variance v 2020 (%)	2019	Variance v 2019 (%)
April	11,230	862	+1,202	442,955	-97
May	29,298	1,015	+2,786	472,842	-94
June	63,327	7,544	+739	482,762	-87
July	116,983	81,759	+43	495,448	-76
August	203,944	170,717	+19	517,850	-61
Totals	424,782	261,897	+62	2,411,857	-82

Looking at what would normally be the peak summer months of June, July and August, passenger numbers were almost 50% up on last year, but still 75% down on pre-covid levels in 2019. Having said this, the airport appears to have performed better than most other UK airports, with Liverpool's recovery in terms of percentage of passengers in July 2021 compared to July 2019 being amongst the highest.

As has been reported previously, it has once again been a frustrating time for the Airport Company as it has for the entire aviation and international travel industry. Whilst the roadmap out of lockdown helped many other industries plan for and then begin to recover, despite some easing of measures international travel has continued to see many restrictions remain, often with changes being introduced at short notice all of which has undermined consumer confidence.

In addition, requirements for expensive PCR testing both prior to departure and on return deters families in particular, at what should have been the busiest time of the year for the airport.

As a consequence, the Airport continues to maximise the use of the Government's furlough scheme with many staff remaining on furlough/flexi-furlough where possible without impacting levels of service.

Having said the above, in August there were in excess of 230 departures per week to 50 destinations, with passengers taking advantage of improvements to

the ‘green list’ of destinations and the easing of quarantine restrictions for double jabbed passengers returning from ‘amber list’ countries. Load factors remain much lower than normal though and numbers of departures were still 40% less than normal.

Popular destinations for Summer Sun have been Malaga, Alicante, Palma and Faro, whilst closer to home the Belfast service continued to be the Airport’s most popular route with up to 30 departures per week and high load factors still.

As more flights have begun to operate, more retailers across the Airport have been able to restart their operations at the airport too and by mid-August almost all retail areas that had suspended operations during lockdown have reopened, though operating hours largely remain reduced compared to pre-covid times. Some retail units will not be re-opening however and future use of these units is being sought.

There has also been the addition of a new retail brand on site, with M&S Food taking space within the new WHSmiths unit located landside in the Arrivals area, offering a basic range of foods aimed at arriving passengers.

Whilst the current operating environment remains a considerable challenge for the business, the airlines operating from Liverpool have continued to commit to future business and further growth at the airport by way of a number of new routes being announced.

In recent months Wizz Air have announced new services to Rome (starting in July) and Tirana in Albania (starting in December), easyJet have announced new services to Bournemouth and Malta and Ryanair have announced new services to Milan Bergamo, Paris Beauvais, Tallin in Estonia and Sibiu in Romania (all starting from late October).

General and Business Aviation

Month	2021 Movements	2020 Movements	Variance v 2020 (%)	2019 Movements	Variance v 2019 (%)
April	1,484	314	+372	2,179	-32
May	1,651	576	+187	2,510	-34
June	1,974	444	+345	2,004	-2
July	1,828	1,356	+35	2,130	-14
August	1,871	1,855	+1	2,231	-16
Totals	8,808	4,545	+94	11,054	-20

The table above shows the level of General and Business Aviation at the Airport in recent months and whilst the increases compared to the same period last year are high, these figures are still 20% less than in 2019, but it is encouraging that this sector appears to be recovering quicker when compared to other aviation activity.

Freight

Following the strong start to the year, the volume of freight handled by the airport in recent months reduced considerably due to the reductions in the airport's nighttime operating hours during lockdown. Traffic has since picked up slowly and work is underway to develop more freight business once again as the post pandemic recovery continues.

2.0 Other Matters

International recognition for Covid-secure measures

The Airport has received international recognition for the measures it has put in place to provide a Covid-secure operation to protect its passengers and employees.

Having worked closely with the UK Civil Aviation Authority and Public Health England, LJLA is one of only a handful of UK airports to have implemented the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) guidance for air travel through the COVID-19 public health crisis.

In order to receive this ICAO recognition, the Airport needed to pass a detailed and thorough review of all its procedures, providing evidence on 77 specific required measures covering all aspects of the airport journey from social distancing, toilets and touchpoints to security processes and exiting the building in a covid safe manner. The team at the airport also undertook desktop reviews, evidencing measures in place through assessments, procedures and schedules as well as an onsite audit taking place by a team of auditors and specialist Doctors.

Airport Transport Forum (ATF)

The latest ATF meeting was held in July which included a presentation from the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority on the plans for the Digital Spine Network, which will connect the city region's key digital assets and the fibre optic cable, which carries internet traffic between the UK, North America and the rest of the world and comes ashore in Southport.

In addition, the various transport operators each provided updates on operations sharing broadly similar experiences. Traffic continues to increase slowly but still behind pre-covid levels, though leisure traffic had been performing better than commuter traffic with the return to the office yet to improve significantly and marketing campaigns were focussing on this going forward.

A new simplified, large bus information graphic is now installed in the airport Arrivals area, helping passengers to better understand bus connectivity between the airport and surrounding areas. A similar graphic is planned for the rail network to improve information provision for rail connectivity to/from the airport.

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 25 November 2021.

Press releases

The following press releases were issued by the Airport over the past few weeks:

13 May	Ciao to Rome as Wizz Air announce more new flights from Liverpool
24 May	LJLA welcomes Loganair's first flight between Liverpool and Derry
9 June	LJLA receives international recognition for its Covid-secure measures
17 June	easyJet adds new domestic route from LJLA with flights to Bournemouth
30 June	Malta becomes easyJet's latest new route from LJLA
21 July	Ryanair announce 4 new Winter destinations from LJLA
11 August	Wizz Air add to their growing network from Liverpool