

[REDACTED]

Date: 2 May 2024
Reference: F0006825

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request of 30 April 2024, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). For reference your original enquiry was as follows:

With reference to sound modeling at Southampton airport, has topography been taken into account correctly, I live south of the runway which is uphill from the airport, aircraft landing are often 200' above my house SO182DU regularly at 80db yet your map conveniently shows no aircraft in my area of that volume. So/ do you compare your models to real life readings? If not why not?

Your request has been considered in line with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). I can confirm that the CAA holds information within scope of the above enquiry; if I may I shall address each of your points in turn:

The CAA can confirm that the ANCON modelling for Southampton takes into account the local terrain height relative to airport level.

It is important to note that the contours shown are for the noise metric $L_{Aeq,16h}$, which describes the average noise level over the average summer 16h day period, and it is not directly comparable to the maximum noise level (L_{Amax}) from individual aircraft events.

The Southampton noise contours are produced in line with the CAA report **CAP2091**, "CAA Policy on Minimum Standards for Noise Modelling." As Southampton Airport falls under 'Noise Category D' as defined by CAP 2091, the modelling is informed by the ICAO (ANP) noise database, but there is no requirement to use local noise measurements.

For other UK airports with higher population counts within the contours (i.e. those falling under Categories A&B in CAP 2091), local noise measurements are taken into account in the modelling. Examples of Category A airports are Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted.

If you are not satisfied with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you should approach the CAA in writing at:-

FOI.Requests@caa.co.uk

The CAA has a formal internal review process for dealing with appeals or complaints in connection with Freedom of Information requests. The key steps in this process are set out

Civil Aviation Authority

Aviation House, Beehive Ring Road, Crawley, West Sussex RH6 0YR. www.caa.co.uk

Email: foi.requests@caa.co.uk

below. A request for an internal review should be submitted within 40 working days of the date of this letter.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under Section 50 of the FOIA to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner at:-

Information Commissioner's Office
FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
SK9 5AF
<https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>

If you wish to request further information from the CAA, please use the form on the CAA website at FOI - Freedom of Information (caa.co.uk).

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
Information Rights Specialist

CAA INTERNAL REVIEW & COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

- The original case to which the appeal or complaint relates is identified and the case file is made available;
- The appeal or complaint is allocated to an Appeal Manager, the appeal is acknowledged and the details of the Appeal Manager are provided to the applicant;
- The Appeal Manager reviews the case to understand the nature of the appeal or complaint, reviews the actions and decisions taken in connection with the original case and takes account of any new information that may have been received. This will typically require contact with those persons involved in the original case and consultation with the CAA Legal Department;
- The Appeal Manager concludes the review and, after consultation with those involved with the case, and with the CAA Legal Department, agrees on the course of action to be taken;
- The Appeal Manager prepares the necessary response and collates any information to be provided to the applicant;
- The response and any necessary information is sent to the applicant, together with information about further rights of appeal to the Information Commissioners Office, including full contact details.

