

## **HACC 26 March 2014**

Heathrow management reported that it must submit a refined version of its 3<sup>rd</sup> runway in the north-west to the Davies Commission by 9<sup>th</sup> May. It will publish the result of its recent consultation on the siting. It seems likely that it will select the more southerly site, as that avoids reconfiguring the M4-M25 junction and involves slightly fewer houses.

Heathrow has started resurfacing the northern runway, which is therefore closed at 10.30pm. On easterlies take-offs are from the southern runway anyway so it won't make any difference to us.

Hillingdon rejected Heathrow's application for taxiways to the northern runway, so they have to appeal to the Secretary of State, and alternation on easterlies won't start next winter.

It was reported that there are now more complaints about landings than take-offs. This may be why the airport wants the government to abolish the westerly preference, and send take-offs to the east over us more like 50% of the time, instead of the current 30%. It is therefore very important that we all complain to the airport about the disturbance they cause us, instead of thinking it a waste of time. Phone the airport noise line 0800 344 844 –see below\*

There was a sickening presentation from the campaign director of Back Heathrow, claiming it is a residents' group, when in fact it is coordinated and financed by Heathrow.

There was another on the Heathrow Hub expansion option, claiming lengthening the northern runway and increasing the number of flights would make the airport operation quieter.

Heathrow is aiming to reduce the representation of councils on HACC to one per council, and reduce the number of meetings to 4 a year. There are 2 good people on the group working on this so there may be some resistance to throwing people off.

Heathrow has arbitrarily abolished its Noise and Tack-keeping working party, on the grounds that it has been badly attended lately. It did valuable technical work on noise, with councils' environmental health officers attending. The new Heathrow Noise Forum is supposed to replace it, and members of the Forum are invited, so this could be bad news.

I learnt from one of the press cuttings that Terminal 3 is due to close by 2030. Heathrow claims they had already published this.

\*You can complain about the noise made by a particular plane, about the frequency of overhead flights, about the (lack of) height overhead, about being woken, or stopped from sleeping, or any other kind of disturbance from aircraft noise

You will get a standard letter in reply, but the point of complaining is that all complaints are registered.

.