

Heathrow Case Study

John Stewart
Chair HACAN

The Dilemma

- London needs to build many more homes
- 470,000 households currently share with other families
- Estimated London needs to build an extra 66,000 houses a year
- Heathrow wants to seriously impact fewer people
- Aircraft are becoming less noisy
- Operational practices are improving

The Inevitable

- Around 700,000 people live within the Heathrow 55Lden contour
- Its footprint extends more than 20 miles from the airport
- It is therefore inevitable there will be new properties built under the flight path

A example of the inevitable



- 20,000 people are expected to move into this area - Nine Elms – within the next few years

Dealing with the inevitable

- Essential to bring all parties together
 - - airport
 - - local authorities
 - - developers
 - - local communities
- Compromises from all parties will be required

How to work with communities

- Involve their representatives **at a strategic level** so they can understand the problems and contribute to the solutions
- The Heathrow Strategic Noise Forum has done this well.

How to inform communities

- Essential that people moving into properties impacted by a flight path are told **beforehand**

Role of developers

- Properties built under flight paths – either by private developers or local authorities – need to have **top-class mitigation** measures installed

A future that works

The **local authorities** need to know where they can permit house building

The **airport** needs to be able plan future noise contours

The **developers** need to know what mitigation will be required

The **community** needs to know the noise impact

Only an overall strategy will deliver these outcomes