



Achievements

LAANC has good reason to be proud of the achievements of its Officers and the many Councillors and Environmental Officers who have represented their Local Councils on it for the last sixty years.

The Early Years

The original members must have found themselves learning alongside others about the many different aspects of the growing phenomena of aircraft noise and ways of reducing it. Over the years LAANC moved forward with its knowledge of the subject alongside growing scientific interest and study, which has been continually challenged by new aircraft and engines, more flights and advancing noise technology.

Little is now known of the early activities when things were typed and Gestetner copied by volunteer Officers, but LAANC grew alongside Heathrow with the engagement of two part time professional Officers and an ever present representation on the Heathrow Airport Consultative Committee and various technical working groups.

Today's Foundations

The unique blend of the technical expertise of the Environmental Officers, Councillors and co-opted Consultants representing communities close to the Airport as well as further afield, has generated an enthusiasm to share expertise and reactions for the benefit of all. Presentations by outside experts and sharing the cost of outside Consultants enhanced this pool of knowledge and enabled LAANC to earn a reputation for thoroughly researched and realistic responses to Government Consultations on noise related problems and a growing involvement in other environmental matters relating to a wide area around Heathrow.

Significant activities

LAANC's track record includes the following:

- **Opposition to Night Flights** has been actioned in robust but realistic responses to every consultation on Night Flights which have beyond doubt curbed some of the "open all hours" aspirations of the aviation industry.
- **LAANC led the Local Councils' Opposition to Terminal Five.** Although the building of T5 was not likely to be prevented, member Environmental Officers and Barristers partly funded by LAANC secured valuable conditions including the limit of 480,000 flights a year to and from Heathrow, a 48,000 limit on airport car parking to restrict air pollution, and enhanced public transport facilities.

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- **Action at European Court of Human Rights.** After a High Court challenge to HM Government by LAANC and five Boroughs about Night Flights depriving residents the right to sleep, which just failed initially and at appeal, the case was taken to ECHR and won, but HMG won its appeal.
- **Monitoring of the Operational Freedoms Trials.** Several years ago LAANC reps worked with Heathrow flight experts, DfT and CAA Officials over a two year period analysing a mountain of statistics, highlighting the distress that changes in flight patterns caused residents, and helped to prove that the trials were of no operational benefit.
- **Submissions to the Davies Airports Commission.** 2014 saw an immense amount of work carried out by the LAANC Director and Environmental colleagues in compiling comprehensive responses to many of the Commission's papers on specific topics related to its work in investigating and recommending where a further runway should be built in SE England.

And LAANC's work will continue.