

Minutes

Nelson Airport Noise and Environment Advisory Committee

Date: 26 May 2026

Time: 2.00pm – 2.49pm

Location: Reid Room, Nelson Airport

Attendees:

Catherine Taylor (CT)	Independent	Committee Chair
Brendan Cook (BCo)	Nelson Airport Ltd (NAL)	CEO
Jesse Woods (JW)	NAL	Head of Operations
Jeff Cornwell (JC)	NAL	Health, Safety and Environment Manager
Beth Armstrong (BA)	NAL	Head of Corporate Services
Paula Baldwin (PB)	ARENA	Secretary
Peter Hay (PH)	ARENA	Chair
Melinda Harvey (MH)	ARENA	Member
Grant May (GM)	Air NZ	Airport Manager
Marcus Day (MD)	Nelson Aviation College (NAC)	
Tracy East (TE)	Air NZ Nelson Turbo Prop Base (Air NZ NTPB)	Maintenance Manager
Greg Perris (GP) (via Teams)	Airways NZ	Tower Operations Manager
Judene Edgar	Independent	Incoming Committee Chair

Apologies: Tim Douglas-Clifford (GCH Aviation), Corey Parsons (NCC), Adam Arnold-Kelly (Airways), Lew Solomon (ARENA)

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1. **Attendance & Apologies**

Noted. The Chair advised the committee she was stepping down as Chair and this would be her last meeting. With the new plan change coming into effect it was an appropriate time to step back and allow someone new to work through that process with the committee.

The Chair's recommendation that Judene Edgar take on the role had been accepted by NCC and NAL. Judene would join as Chair from the end of the meeting.

Committee members introduced themselves to Judene, and thanked the current Chair for her service to the committee.

2. **Confirmation of minutes of the 25 November 2025 Meeting**

Confirmed.

3. **Matters Arising**

a. January Ldn Report Data Update

NAL reported it had reached out to Airways regarding anomalies in the January data. It had not heard back but, as data for February, March and April was as expected, it was agreed that the matter be closed.

b. Weather and Exceedance Footnote

NAL advised Marshall Day had provided additional context around exceedances excluded due to weather conditions. This would be outlined further later in the meeting.

c. Envirosuite/ Web Trak 6 Update

NAL has had meetings with Wellington Airport and subsequently Envirosuite to better understand the system and how it has been used by others. Wellington Airport is largely using it for flight tracking compliance (eg. height, turning points etc) not for noise compliance. The upfront and annual costs of the package were considerable, and it was assessed that Nelson Airport's current noise compliance methodology would not materially improve. NAL advised that the system is not the right solution for Nelson Airport and it will not be pursued further.

It was confirmed however that NAL will go to market for a provider to meet modelling and measurement obligations under PPC30.

d. Website – NANEAC page

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NAL and ARENA had met to discuss the new website page and ARENA was supportive of the proposed draft.

4. **Matters for Discussion**

a. Night Flights data

ARENA asked whether Christchurch Airways data on aircraft requesting runway lights after 10pm could fill the current gap in night flight data from 10pm to 12am. Airways confirmed fixed wing aircraft would need to request runway lighting from the Christchurch Tower to land at Nelson after 10pm. It was not known if Christchurch recorded this information.

NAL confirmed it would investigate whether there was any data available from the Christchurch Airways team.

b. PPC30 Obligations and Timelines

NAL shared the timeline of noise mitigation obligations stemming from the Notice of Requirement, with requirements for various reports to be developed within the next 12 months. That would then flow through into mitigation offers for eligible residents in the following period.

The other matter of interest to the committee was the addition of two community representatives on the committee. NAL would work with the TBCA to confirm the new members, with the aim of having them attend the August 2026 meeting.

ARENA highlighted a typo in the “annual obligations” section of timeline. NAL confirmed 65 Ldn would be corrected to 60 Ldn.

5. **Review of Airport Noise Graphs & Data**

a. Ldn Reports – February, March, April 2026

Received.

b. Night Flying Table - Updated incl. April 2026

Received

6. **Review of Noise Complaints – February, March, April 2026**

It was noted the format of the spreadsheet was very hard to read and would be improved for future reporting. NAL outlined the summary of complaints, with 5 received in February,

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7 in March and none in April. NAL had tested the online reporting portal and confirmed it was working in April.

The Chair noted the complaint about noise from pilot training activity and suggested enhanced website information might help. NAL confirmed there was information on pilot training activity available on its website, and it would work with Nelson Aviation College to identify any gaps in the public information.

NAC confirmed evening training activity tended to ramp up in March, then drop off later in the year. It was important to note there are several pilot training programmes operating from Nelson, and on some occasions aircraft from several different providers would be operating at one time.

7. **Engine Testing Noise Summary (Jan – April 2026)**

NAL provided background information about the way potential exceedances have been treated by Marshall Day when there is rain present, with Marshall Day previously unable to confirm an exceedance when it is raining. After review, Marshall Day has provided a memo outlining an alternate approach that provides a way of ascertaining whether the effect of rain on the monitor is negligible or not. Marshall Day has subsequently reviewed the prior potential exceedances that were affected by rain. As a result, one prior event has been identified as a potential exceedance and will go through the standard process for confirming an exceedance, including review with Air NZ NTPB.

The Chair congratulated Air NZ on the significant improvement in exceedances over the past year.

Air NZ NTPB advised that while the maintenance being done has not changed, the complaints process is working well, as was education for the team on the social impacts of engine testing noise and the importance of considering noise effects.

The committee discussed the issue of a taxi test taking place at the same time as an engine test, amplifying the noise experienced in the community. NAL expressed its view this was a learning for the Air NZ NTPB team to manage the timing of taxi tests around engine tests to try to avoid doing both at the same time.

ARENA would discuss its concerns directly with the NCC about the regulator's view that taxi tests do not contribute to a potential engine test noise exceedance.

8. **Engine Testing – Air NZ NTPB Update**

Air NZ NTPB advised there was no further update on the ground run enclosure workstream. ARENA expressed its desire to see progress by September this year.

The Chair observed that the current economic environment will be influencing Air NZ's capital expenditure decisions and suggested the committee take this into account when considering expectations and timing.



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Air NZ NTPB said it had not committed to a timeframe but confirmed work was ongoing to understand the options.

9. General Business

None

10. 2026 Meeting Dates Agreed (26 May, 25 Aug, 24 Nov)

Noted

11. Final Comments

The Chair reflected on the progress made by the committee since its inception 15 years ago, noting that airport noise management was in a much better position than it had been then. The meeting closed at 2.49pm.

Action List

Due Date	Action Title	Owner(s)
25 Aug 2026	NAL to seek runway light data from Christchurch Airways Tower.	Jesse Woods
25 Aug 2026	NAL work with TBCA to confirm two new community representatives for NANEAC	Brendan Cook
25 Aug 2026	NAL improve readability of the noise complaints report	Jesse Woods
25 Aug 2026	NAL consider options for additional public information about flying school activity	Beth Armstrong