

NOISE MITIGATION PROGRAMME

REPORT No 2

APRIL 2004

1.0 Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on progress with the Noise Mitigation Programme over the six month period from October 2003 to April 2004, as is required by Condition 10A(b) of the Airport Designation. Detail relating to the entire Programme can be found in Report No. 1, October 2003.

The Noise Mitigation Programme provides for offers of acoustic treatment which are made to owners of various Activities Sensitive to Aircraft Noise (ASANs) in noise impacted areas around Auckland International Airport (AIA), under Condition 10 of the Designation.

AIAL's general requirements under the Programme fall into the following areas:

1. Existing Buildings subject to noise from Aircraft Operations;
2. Existing Buildings subject to Engine Testing Noise; and
3. New Buildings at Educational Facilities.

This report assumes that the reader is familiar with the terminology used in the Airport Designation and for that reason definitions and terms from the designation and from the operative Manukau District Plan are used without further definition in this report. In general in this report, definitions (from those sources, and when significant to this report) are shown in Capitals and terms (when first used) are shown in *italics*.

2.0 Existing Buildings Subject to Noise from Aircraft Operations

The Airport Designation categorises three types of Existing Buildings:

- ? Educational Facilities
- ? Registered Pre-schools
- ? Others.

The "other" type is predominately made up of household units (referred to as dwellings in this report) but also includes child centres, hospitals, and rest homes etc.

AIAL is required to offer acoustic treatment to the owners of these Existing Buildings when the predicted noise level from aircraft operations reaches specified levels. In order to know when these offers should be made AIAL produces Annual Aircraft Noise Contours (AANCs).

The first Annual Aircraft Noise Contours (AANCs) were finalised in October 2003 and showed, as outlined in Report No. 1, that the contours are around 4-5 dBA behind the Future Aircraft Noise Contours (FANCs).

Under Condition 10(n) of the Airport Designation, offers of acoustic treatment measures relating to the AANCs produced in October 2003 are not required to be made until April 2005 and offers relating to the 2004 AANCs are required to be made by April 2006.

Progress towards making these offers is outlined below.

2.1 Offers to Existing Dwellings

2.1.1 Process for making offers

Report No 1 outlined steps for making offers of acoustic treatment to each dwelling. Since that time further work has been undertaken from which it has been decided to make some adjustments to this process. It is envisaged that the process will now be as follows:

- ? Prepare and publish AANCs
- ? Recognise that property is about to qualify for treatment offer.
- ? Identify owner.
- ? Prepare and make offer – this will outline basic acoustic treatment to be installed with final details to be available upon acceptance by the owner and an inspection of the property.

If owner accepts the offer:

- ? Owner returns deposit to AIAL (where offer is outside the HANA)
- ? Inspect property and determine whether a certified standard package would be suitable.
- ? If not, design an individual package.
- ? Owner receives and signs final detail of acoustic treatment to be installed.
- ? Prepare and execute covenant documentation.
- ? Prepare tender/contract documentation.
- ? Call tenders.
- ? Select contractor & award contract.
- ? Execute covenant.
- ? Project manage work.
- ? Provide certificate from a *suitably qualified independent person* to Council.

2.1.2 Contractual Arrangements

In Report No 1 it was also stated that one issue in making the offers was that of contractual arrangements between the dwelling owner, AIAL and the treatment contractor. At present AIAL plans to have an agreement with the dwelling owner to undertake the work. The dwelling owner will need to provide AIAL with a deposit before work will be undertaken. AIAL will also have a further agreement with a contractor to undertake the work on AIAL's behalf.

2.1.3 Development Of Certified Standard Packages

Under Condition 10(q)(i) of the Airport Designation, AIAL is required to develop (effectively by 21 January 2004) as many "standard packages" for acoustic treatment as is practicable. These are called Certified Standard Packages (CSPs).

As outlined in Report No. 1 pilot trials were undertaken in five dwellings in the High Aircraft Noise Area (HANA) in the period from September-December 2003. However the post construction noise testing in the pilot study houses revealed results, in some instances, which were less than desired. Rather than undertake further testing and work over the Christmas holiday period, AIAL waited until later January before undertaking further testing and work in the pilot study houses.

In order to ensure strict compliance with the conditions of the Designation 231, AIAL lodged a notice of requirement on 18 December 2003 for an alteration to condition 10(q)(i) from "15 months" to 21 months". This was accepted by Manukau City Council and means that the standard packages now need to be developed by 21 July 2004.

Since that time further work has been undertaken in the houses. One house in particular was chosen and extensive noise testing was carried out in order to understand the noise levels that had been measured in the past. As a result of this, further construction work was carried out in the house and there is some understanding of the additional enhancements required to lower the internal noise level from Ldn 45 dBA to Ldn 40 dBA.

AIAL's noise consultants are currently working further inside the other houses and are beginning to draw up CSPs based on the information that has been attained through this process. It is hoped that the CSPs will be completed by the end of May 2004.

2.1.4 Suitably Qualified Independent Persons

Under Conditions 10(q) and 10(qq) AIAL is required to nominate, for approval by Manukau City Council, "suitably qualified and independent persons" who will certify the CSPs at the development stage and who will also certify that any CSP or IP has been installed properly.

On 20 April 2004 AIAL wrote to the Manukau City Council with nominations for this role. AIAL is currently awaiting approval of these by the Council.

2.2 Existing Educational Facilities

The AANCs produced in October 2003 show that Puhinui School will qualify for an acoustic treatment offer in April 2005. No other schools will be eligible for an offer at that time.

The treatment of each school will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis as and when each school becomes eligible for an offer.

Specific designs (or individual packages) will likely be created for each school.

2.3 Existing Registered Preschools

There are no existing registered preschools which currently qualify for an acoustic treatment offer. Offers will be made as AANCs reach these facilities.

As is the case for schools, the treatment of each preschool will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis as and when each preschool becomes eligible for an offer. Specific designs (or individual packages) will likely be created for each preschool.

3.0 Existing Buildings Subject to Engine Testing Noise

Under Condition 13A of the designation, AIAL is obliged to offer acoustic treatment measures to the owners of Existing Buildings within the specified Ldn 57 Area within 18 months of the designation becoming operative, ie by 21 April 2004. The offers require the owner to pay 25 percent toward the cost of the acoustic treatment measures being installed in their home.

Thirteen dwellings have been identified within the Ldn 57 Area. On 14 April 2004 AIAL wrote the owners of the dwellings a preliminary letter advising them of AIAL's obligation to make an offer of acoustic treatment for their property.

On 21 April 2004 AIAL sent these owners a further letter which constituted an offer to install acoustic treatment measures in their dwelling subject to the requirements of the Airport Designation. AIAL is currently waiting for a response from these owners. If an offer is accepted the process outlined in 2.1.1 will be followed.

A more detailed letter was written to Manukau City Council on 21 April 2004 outlining the background to making the above offers and providing copies of the letters which were sent to the home owners.

4.0 New Buildings at Educational Facilities

Under Conditions 10(k) & 10(m), AIAL is obligated to offer funding for acoustic treatment in new noise sensitive buildings at both existing and new public Educational Facilities in the MANA.

The requirement to make those offers is conditional on certain certification from the Ministry of Education (MoE), so in essence AIAL's role is a reactionary one after advice from the MoE.

In the Noise Mitigation Programme Report No. 1, October 2003, it was reported that advice had been received on new buildings at Redoubt North and Puhinui.

Nothing further has been received regarding Redoubt North.

As regards Puhinui, the new buildings are now substantially complete and AIAL is working with MoE to agree AIAL's contribution to the noise attenuation costs.

No advice has been received regarding new buildings at other eligible schools.

Tegan Brown
Environmental Development Officer