

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE SOLENT AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: 12 October 2023

Venue: Collingwood Room – Fareham Borough Council

Committee Members Present:

Fareham Borough Council

Councillor Seán Woodward

Councillor Tiffany Harper

Councillor Jacquie Needham

Councillor Stephen Dugan

Hampshire County Council

Councillor Pal Hayre

Gosport Borough Council

Councillor Alan Durrant

Aerodrome

Alan Key - Daedalus Aviation and Heritage Group

Frank Thompson – Phoenix Aviation

Community

Brian Mansbridge – Lee-On-The-Solent Residents Association

Ken Mackenzie – Hill Head Residents Association

Phillip Whineray – Ranvilles Residents Community Group

Also in Attendance:

Regional and City Airports (RCA) Martyn Francis, Airport Manager

Marshall Barrand, Projects Director

Fareham Borough Council

Sarah Ward, Head of Strategic Sites

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies of absence were received from Councillor S Martin from Fareham Borough Council, Ellie O'Toole from Euroflight Training Ltd, Paul Coppin from Lee-On-The-Solent Microlight Club and Heather Hall from Britten-Norman Ltd.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting/Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2023 were received.

Mr Whineray proposed an amendment to the Minutes as he believed that they did not accurately reflect the points that he made on behalf of the RRCG at the last meeting. The proposal was not seconded by the Committee and therefore lost with no vote taken. The Minutes were agreed as a correct record.

There were no matters arising from the previous Minutes.

3. Airport Management Matters

Members of the RCA Management Team delivered a presentation on various Airport Management Matters.

A copy of the presentation will be circulated with these Minutes.

a) Airport Operations

Martyn Francis presented details of the Airport Operations highlighting all the activities undertaken in the day to day running of the airport.

Question – Why were landing fees charged to aircraft that were invited to participate at the recent Lee Victory Festival?

Answer – The Airport charged reduced landing fees for all aircraft to the organisers of the event with a 50% discount.

Question – Why have the RRCG not had any residents meetings with the RCA?

Answer – The RRCG were invited to several meetings and have declined.

Councillor Harper addressed the Committee to advise that several Ranvilles Residents were open to discussions, but the RRCG were not forthcoming to meeting either herself as Ward Councillor or RCA. A few years ago, some garden visits did take place with residents which were very positive and Councillor Harper advised she would be happy to organise these again.

Mr Whineray explained that he would speak to the RRCG Chairman to clarify the position as he believes discussions are the best way to resolve the long-standing issues with the RRCG.

b) Performance

Martyn went on to present details on the airport performance which highlighted that although airport movements were slightly down, mainly due to the poor summer weather, income remains high due to the mix of aircraft using the airport and the increased international flights.

No questions or comments were received from the Committee.

c) Complaints

Martyn provided an overview of complaints received about the airport and highlighted that complaints from the Ranvilles Lane area still remain high.

Mr Whineray commented that although complaints still remain high, some compliments have also been sent to the RCA from the RRCG.

The Chairman suggested that in future this item be renamed, Compliments and Complaints to capture the positive feedback received by the RCA.

d) Safety and Security

Martyn provided an overview of the airport's safety and security.

The Chairman asked that acronyms be kept to a minimum in future presentations to allow Members of the Committee to fully understand the information. Martyn agreed to avoid acronyms in the future.

Question – Could you please provide details of the Runway Incursions that occurred?

Answer – One of the incursions was from a visiting aircraft whose pilot had not made the appropriate communication with the airport as they had assumed it was closed. The second was from another visiting aircraft who went through the runway hold point.

Question – What is an ATZ Infringement?

Answer – Where an aircraft has entered into our ATZ (Aerodrome Traffic Zone) without making the relevant radio calls to gain sufficient flight information.

Question - What action is taken after an incident at the airport?

Answer – All incidents are reported and investigated by the Airport Safety Committee and if required details are passed to the CAA.

e) Airspace

Martyn presented details on the airspace matters providing an overview of the work being undertaken by the team at RCA.

No questions were received from the Committee.

4. Airport Development

Sarah Ward provided a verbal update on the various airport development projects since the Solent Airport Investment Programme was agreed back in June 2023.

Question – Is the electric charging point to be used for aircraft or cars?

Answer – The charging point will be for aircraft. At the moment there are very few fully electric aircraft in the UK, but it is hoped this will increase.

Frank Thompson addressed the Committee to advise that the electric aircraft can only fly a couple of circuits before recharging so not to be used for long haul, but they are quiet and a very interesting concept moving forward.

5. Any Other Business

- a) Brain Mansbridge commented on the success of the Lee Victory Festival which was a great event.
- b) Mr Whineray commented that he would like to keep the lines of communication open to look to resolve the problems that the Ranvilles residents are having. He explained that he believes that the issues can be resolved if all parties sit down and talk face to face with open minds.

The Chairman responded by saying that all invites to meet have been declined or ignored by the RRCG so this has been impossible.

Frank Thompson reassured the Committee that he personally monitors the training flights on a daily basis and some do stray from time to time. These incidents are dealt with there and then, on every occasion and are not dealt with lightly. Frank expressed his disappointment at the number of complaints that are still received given the work that is undertaken to minimise them.

Marshall also responded to the RRCG by saying that pilots typically use the airspace with integrity, and that the CAA are fully conversant with the way that the airport operates. If they had any concerns this would be monitored.

Councillor Harper advised Mr Whineray that she and her fellow Ward Councillor, Mrs Hockley would be happy to arrange a date to talk further.

- c) Mr Whineray asked if there were any concerns about the amount of lead in the air around the airport. Martyn responded by saying that the Jet A1 fuel used at the Airport has no lead in it and the AvGAS has very low levels of lead. Sarah Ward explained that the Council and RCA are both dedicated to reducing the environmental impact from the airport but at this time there is no legislation to

restrict lead use. The Council is tackling this issue at the source by offering greener, more sustainable alternatives.

6. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on the 30 April 2024 at 2.30pm.

(The meeting started at 2.30pm
and ended at 3.35pm)

Solent Airport Daedalus



Consultative Committee Update October 2023



Airport Operations



Aeronautical Ground Lighting (AGL) - CAA approval.
Performance Based Navigation – PBN.
Stage 1 complete, preparation for stage 2 in progress
Pavement repair program complete.



Carbon Sustainability & Environmental, Social and Governance road map - developed to support Council Action Plan



CAA Audits by Aerodrome & Met depts - Findings required further employment.
2 airport staff members qualified as mental health first aiders



Fueling (September)
Avgas sold 60% of total budget
JetA1 sold 75% of total budget



Community

- Successful events keep Solent Airport at the heart of the community and supporting local charities:
- Inaugural airfield run raising funds for Naomi's House & Jacksplace.
 - Over 250 runners and raising over £6000
 - 2024 run already in planning with increased numbers.
- Resident Assoc Meetings:
 - Regular meetings held with Lee and Hillhead Residents' Associations
- Lee Victory Festival 2023
 - 22nd -24th September 2023
 - Seafront air display from Spitfires.com and Navy Wings.
 - 11 aircraft on static display



Upcoming Events & Engagement



Airport Christmas
Event Wednesday
20th December 2023
All proceeds to
Charlies Beach Hut



Stay up to date with events by
Signing up to our newsletter.
E-shots Operator Campaigns
(on-going monthly plan)



Airport Tours now
complete until
Spring 2024



Performance

Year on Year Summary



	April – Sep 2022	April – Sep 2023	YoY Var%
Operator			
Business	17,280	12,641	(27%)
General Aviation	2,552	2,550	0%
Other Fixed-wing	3,642	3,300	(9%)
Other Helicopter	222	220	(1%)
Fixed-wing			
Movements	12,443	10,969	(12%)
T and G	9,396	6,496	(31%)
Total	21,839	17,465	(20%)
Helicopter			
Movements	1,821	1,214	(33%)
T and G	36	32	(11%)
Total	1,857	1,246	(33%)
Grand Total	23,696	18,711	(21%)

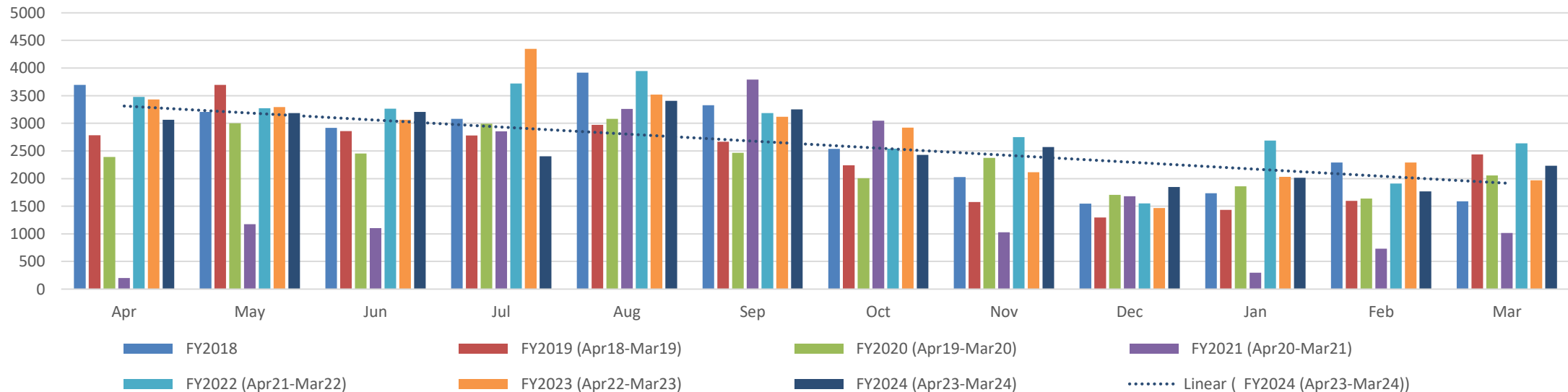
- ➔ Movements lower than budget.
- ➔ Despite the shortfall in traffic, revenues are up 14% year on year.
- ➔ Resident business decreased whilst GA stayed fairly consistent.
- ➔ Fuel sales are positive 8% YTD

Fuel Sales YTD (litres)				
Fuel Type	FY23 Actual	FY24 Budget	FY24 Sales	YTD Var
AvGAS	129,236	245,424	139,113	8%
JET A1	87,919	165,472	95,222	8%
Total	217,155	410,896	234,335	

Cumulative Movements and Forecast (Incl. SAR)

- Poor weather periods have affected overall movement numbers.
- Worst July for 6 years
- Forecast is below LY

Movement Year	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	FY Total	YoY % Var.
FY2018	3695	3207	2919	3082	3918	3328	2538	2027	1549	1,735	2,289	1,589	31,876	
FY2019 (Apr18-Mar19)	2,784	3,694	2,859	2,778	2,973	2,666	2,240	1,578	1,298	1,436	1,599	2,438	28,343	-11%
FY2020 (Apr19-Mar20)	2,392	3,003	2,452	2,992	3,080	2,468	2,006	2,373	1,706	1,859	1,638	2,058	28,027	-1%
FY2021 (Apr20-Mar21)	202	1,177	1,102	2,857	3,260	3,793	3,047	1,030	1,682	299	732	1,017	20,198	-28%
FY2022 (Apr21-Mar22)	3,479	3,273	3,265	3,721	3,947	3,186	2,543	2,749	1,551	2,687	1,911	2,638	34,950	73%
FY2023 (Apr22-Mar23)	3,433	3,296	3,064	4,346	3,518	3,119	2,920	2,117	1,468	2,033	2,293	1,968	33,575	-4%
FY2024 (Apr23-Mar24)	3,065	3,184	3,208	2,402	3,405	3,254	2427	2572	1849	2013	1770	2232	31,382	-7%
YoY (FY2024 vs FY2023) - M on M % Var.	-12%	-3%	5%	-45%	-3%	4%	-17%	21%	26%	-1%	-23%	13%	-7%	



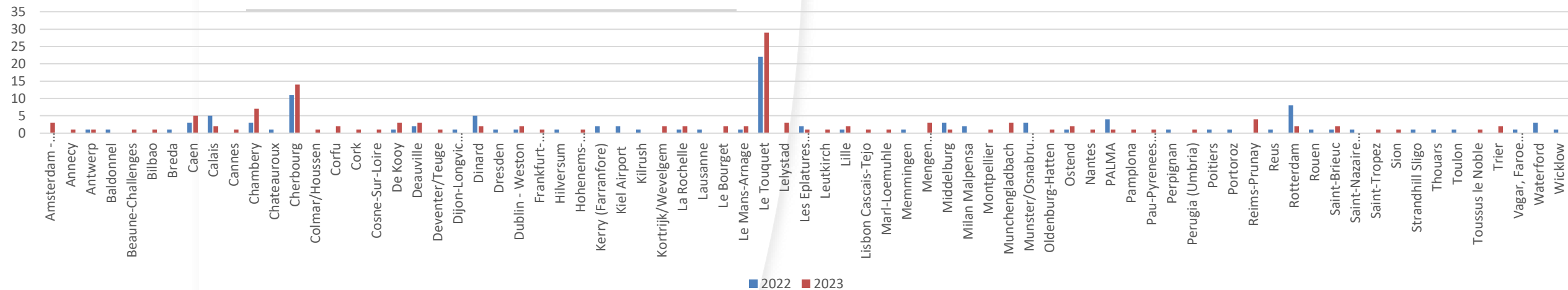
International Movements Jan - Sept YoY

Event	2022	2023	Var%
Arrivals	108	129	19%
Departure	107	137	28%



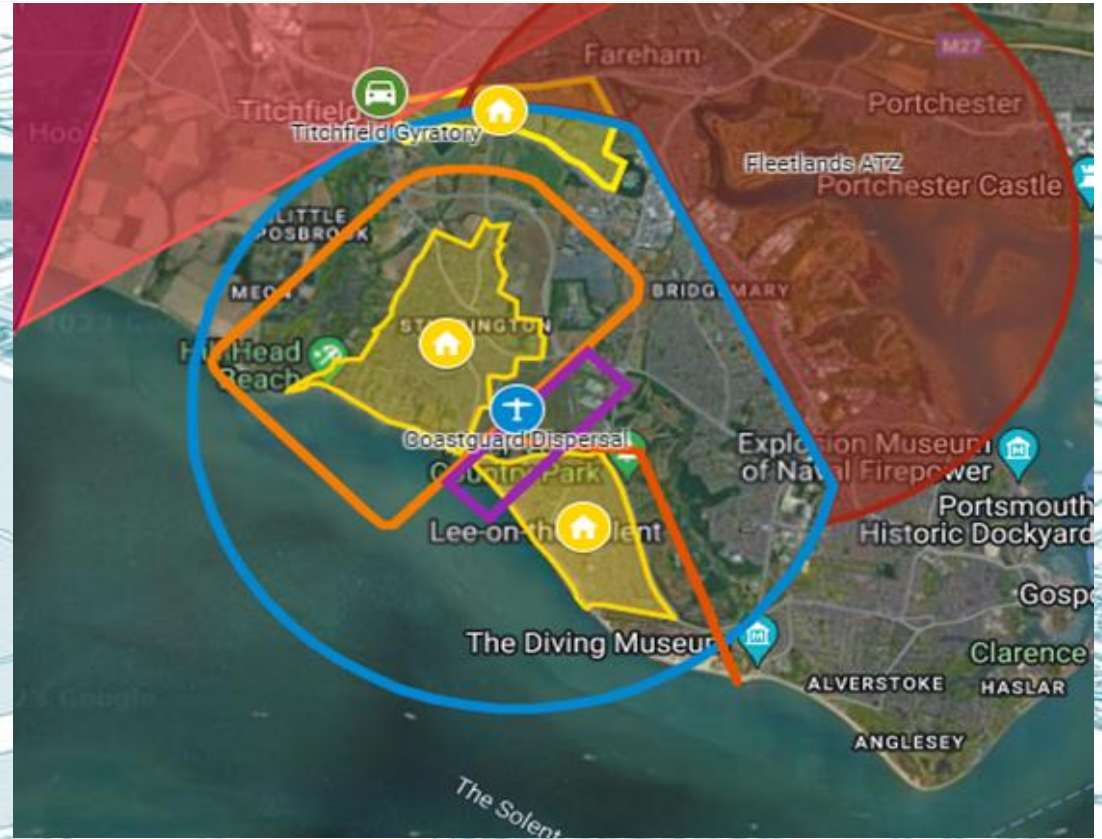
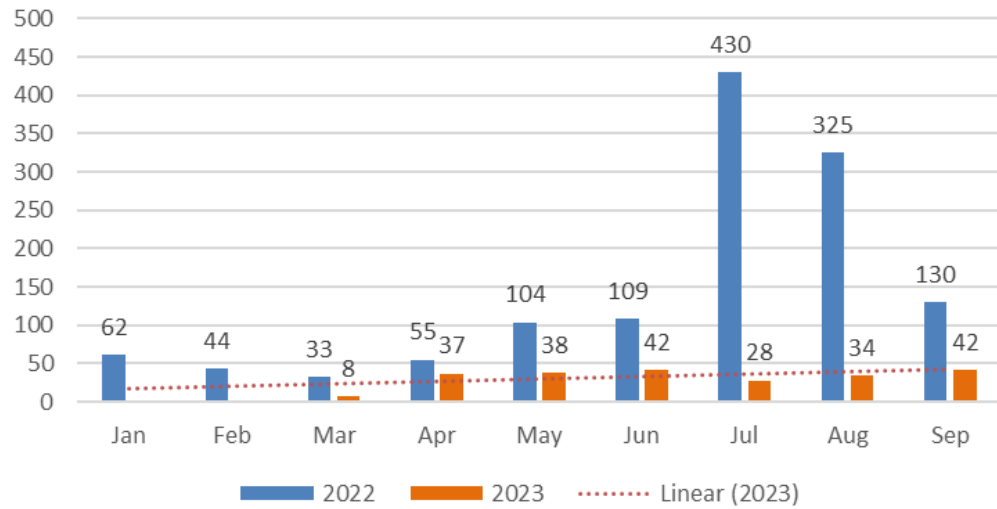
- ➔ Furthest arrival Corfu, Greece.
- ➔ 31 new Airports in 2023

Arrivals YoY

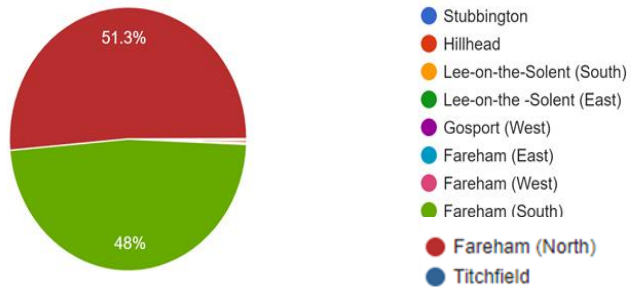


Complaints Monitoring

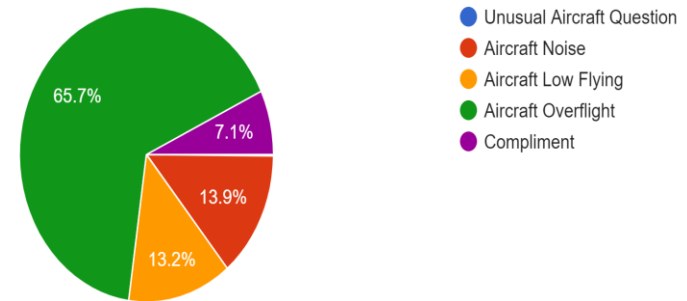
2022 v 2023 Feedback Report Analysis



Location
2,180 responses

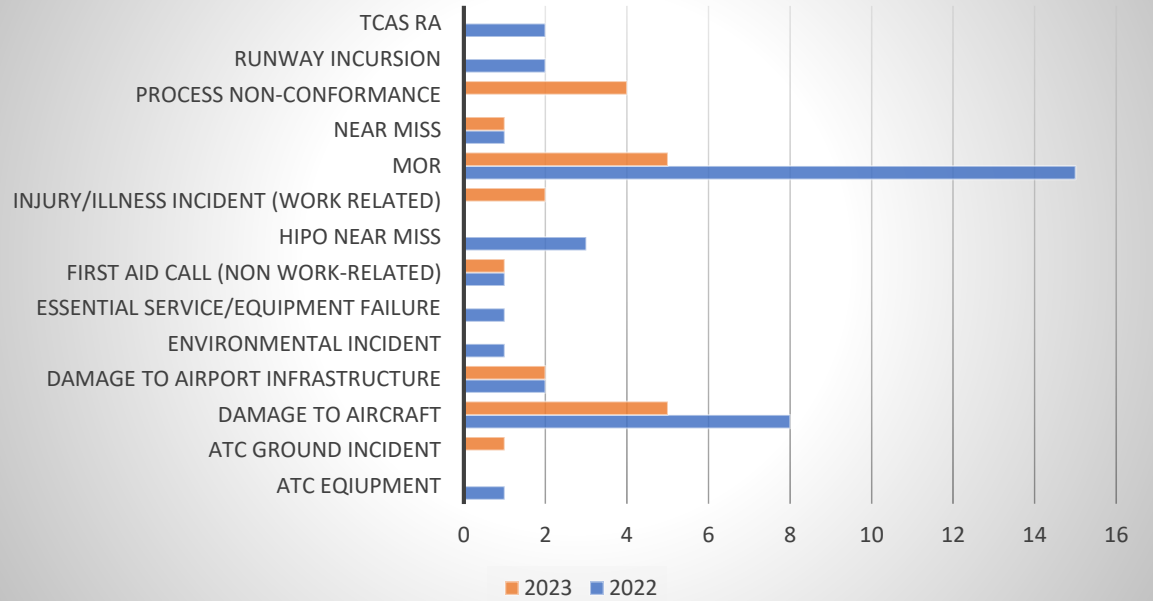


2,012 responses



Safety and Security

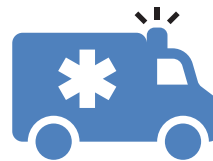
No of Occurrences 2022 v 2023 YoY



- MOR – ATZ infringement, 2 x RWY Incursion
- First Aid – Café customer
- ATC Ground Incident – aircraft reporting incorrect information
- 2 x Process Non-Conformance
- Damage to Aircraft – ground incident taxiing aircraft



Aerodrome and Meteorological Audits undertaken 2023. Compliance item requiring immediate action and raised staffing level for Rescue & Fire Fighting Service.



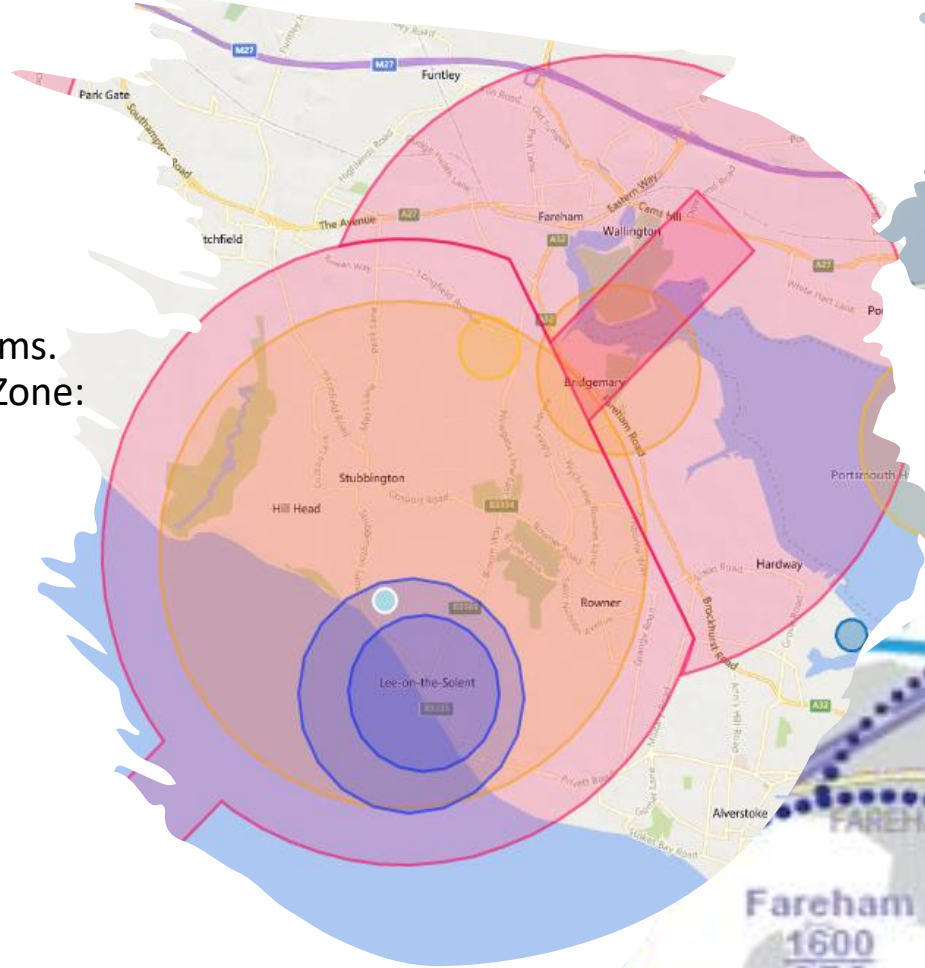
The Emergency Planning Committee met Apr 23, Plans for a Table Top Exercise later in the year and plan for LiveEx 2024



Solent Airport continues to operate safely with 21 occurrence reports being recorded in 2023 versus 37 in 2022.

Airspace

- Drone Permits issued for Unmanned Air Systems.
 - operations within the Flight Restriction Zone:
 - 2022 = 56
 - 2023 = 37
 - **2 unauthorised events**
- Crane Permits issued (within 6km of the aerodrome):
 - 2022 = 22
 - 2023 = 12
- Ongoing discussion with CAA & Fleetlands for the use of an upper portion of Fleetlands ATZ



Solent Airport Daedalus



Consultative Committee Update October 2023

