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Ms Viktoryia Varzinava
By email: request-721853-40c671fa@whatdotheyknow.com

Our ref: EIR2021/02455
19 February 2021

Dear Ms Varzinava,

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Airport Noise Shapefiles

Thank you for your request for information of 26 January 2021 about aircraft noise shapefiles. We have handled your request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs).

The EIRs apply to requests for environmental information, which is a broad category of information defined in regulation 2 of the EIRs. Public authorities are required to handle requests for environmental information under the EIRs. They give similar access rights to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Your information request and our response are set out below:

Could you please provide the most recent shapefiles of noise map contours for the major UK airports listed below? I'm interested in Lden noise indicator only and its contours.

Based on 'Strategic noise mapping' paper published by Defra in 2019 the following airports undertook noise mapping in 2017:

- *Birmingham International*
- *Bournemouth*
- *Bristol*
- *Cambridge*
- *East Midlands*
- *Leeds Bradford*
- *Liverpool John Lennon*
- *London Gatwick*
- *London Luton*
- *London Stansted*
- *Manchester International*
- *Newcastle International*
- *Southampton*
- *Southend*
- *Wycombe Air Park*

The noise maps for these airports were published in their Noise Action Plans, which are in pdf format. I'm asking you to provide the shapefiles of noise contours which were used to produce these maps (Lden indicator only).

We are sending you the datasets you requested for major airports separately via multiple emails, this is due to the large size of the files.

Information disclosed in response to this EIRs request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the EIRs and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk), together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. No information identifying you will be placed on the GOV.UK website.

We attach Annex A, explaining the copyright that applies to the information being released to you, and Annex B giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact the address below.

Yours sincerely

Mark Shotton
Information Rights Team
InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk

Annex A

Copyright

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including for private study and non-commercial research, and for any other purpose authorised by an exception in current copyright law. Documents (except photographs or logos) can be also used in the UK without requiring permission for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder.

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Annex B

Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to Andrew Mobsby, Head of Information Rights via email at InformationRequests@defra.gov.uk and he will arrange for an internal review of your case. Details of Defra's complaints procedure are on our website.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure.

The ICO's offices are currently closed so please visit their website on how to contact them during this period, here:

<https://ico.org.uk>

Additionally if you wish to make a complaint to the ICO please use the following link:

<https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/official-information-concerns-report/official-information-concern/>