

Irish aviation environment network

Terms of reference (draft)



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Purpose

The Irish aviation environment network will provide a neutral, open and constructive forum to support those actively working on aviation-related environmental issues in Ireland. Its purpose is to strengthen connections, share information and support approaches that help the sector respond effectively to the environmental challenges it faces.

Objective

The network will focus on:

Relationship building

- Create space for members to build informal communication channels and strengthen cross-industry relationships
- Promote an open and constructive dialogue between stakeholders from across the Irish aviation sector

Knowledge sharing

- Provide updates on policy developments, industry initiatives, research and emerging environmental trends
- Encourage members to share insights, case studies, relevant data and lessons learned from their environmental and communications activities

Support sector-wide communications

- Facilitate discussions that help members understand and navigate environmental expectations, risks and best practices
- Improve collective preparedness to respond to the environmental challenges facing the aviation sector, including the climate change and biodiversity crisis

The network will not:

- Replace existing forums, programmes or initiatives
- Seek to develop specific collaborations
- Lobby or take positions on topics

Scope

The network may focus on topics related to:

- Climate change mitigation (including CO₂ and non-CO₂ emissions, and decarbonisation pathways) and climate change adaptation / resilience
- Sustainable aviation fuels (SAF) and alternative energy sources
- Noise and local air quality issues
- Circular economy initiatives
- Operations and infrastructure
- Industry reporting and regulatory developments
- Communications and public engagement
- UN sustainable development goals

This list is not exhaustive and may evolve as industry needs change.

Membership

Membership is held individually by practitioners (rather than by an organisation) in environment related roles or with environment responsibilities, in organisations based in (or with significant links to) Ireland from the following:

- Aircraft lessors
- Aviation sector bodies or associations, e.g. Aircraft Leasing Ireland
- Certified aviation organisations in Ireland, e.g. those involved in aircraft design, production and maintenance, aircraft operators, airport operators, air navigation service providers, air crew training & licencing, Part-CAMO and Part-CAO organisations, etc.
- Government & State agencies, e.g. Department of Transport, Air Accident Investigation Unit, Irish Defence Forces, Irish Coast Guard, Environmental Protection Agency, Met Éireann, Aircraft Noise Competent Authority, National Oil Reserves Agency, Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
- Research institutes and academic partners
- Trade unions

Members agree to:

- Participate on a voluntary basis
- Contribute to the network
- Engage constructively and respectfully
- Follow the Chatham House rule
- Foster a neutral, non-commercial and collaborative environment

Meeting format

Meetings will occur 1-2 times per year, with at least one in-person, and additional workshops or thematic sessions may be organised as agreed.

Governance

The IAA shall facilitate the network. The chair / co-chairs will:

- Set meeting agendas (with input from members)
- Circulate relevant materials
- Encourage balanced participation
- Maintain a record of key discussion points and agreed actions