

Manchester Airport Departure Routes Information Pack

NORTHERLY DEPARTURES IN WESTERLY OPERATIONS (ROUTES SONEX1R AND SONEX1Y)

Flying over: Mobberley / north Knutsford / Mere / Rostherne /
Little Bollington / Partington

This document explains how we operate and provides some
information about the number of aircraft and passengers
currently flying from Manchester Airport.



ABOUT YOUR AIRPORT

- ▶ Manchester Airport Group is the largest UK owned airport group with three airports.



Manchester Airport officially opened on 25 June 1938 and is today owned by the 10 Councils of Greater Manchester and Industry Funds Management (IFM).

▶ CARBON ACCREDITATION

In 2016, Manchester Airport became the first UK airport to be awarded Level 3+ carbon neutral status. In 2012 we achieved ISO 14001.



▶ VOLUNTEERING

9,270 volunteer hours in the community, from 558 volunteers, in 2018/2019.

▶ COMMUNITY TRUST FUND

The airport has supported community groups with over £3.6 million in grants since 1997.



▶ BEST UK AIRPORT

Manchester Airport was voted the Best UK Airport in the Travel Weekly Globe Travel Awards 2020.

1939 saw 7,600 passengers per year...

...today it's grown to

29.5m

FLYING TO 220 DESTINATIONS



With new flights to Dhaka, Beijing, LA, Boston and Shanghai, from over 60 Airlines.

2017 Manchester Airport joined the list of top 20 European airports.



▶ GROUND TRANSPORT

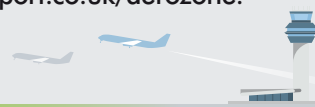
THE 5.5m PASSENGERS

visiting Manchester Airport station have access to:

- 140 trains a day to over 100 destinations;
- 440 busses a day;
- 132 coaches a day; and
- City Centre tram every 12 minutes.



Supporting over 13,000 children in education every year. A new AeroZone school resource opens in 2020. For more information see www.manchesterairport.co.uk/aerozone.



OVER 100 STANDS



IN 2001
A SECOND RUNWAY WAS ADDED



AND 200 ON-SITE OPERATORS



HOW WE OPERATE

USE OF RUNWAYS

Manchester Airport has two runways. We use both runways during the daytime, but planning permission does not allow us to use Runway 2 between 10pm and 6am, unless we are doing maintenance on Runway 1.

As the number of flights has increased, we have needed to extend the times during which we use both runways. This happened in July 2018. The changes will reduce delays and increase efficiency. For more information about this see our web page at www.manchesterairport.co.uk/dualrunwayuse.

We have a Night Noise Policy which means that we do operate at night, but flights are restricted. You can read more about our Night Noise Policy at www.manchesterairport.co.uk/nightnoise.

TIMES WHEN TWO RUNWAYS USED	
DAYS	Summer season from 30 March 2020
MONDAY TO FRIDAY	6.15am to 8pm
SATURDAY	6.15am to 4pm
SUNDAY	6.15am to 9.30pm and 1pm to 8pm

LANDING PATHS

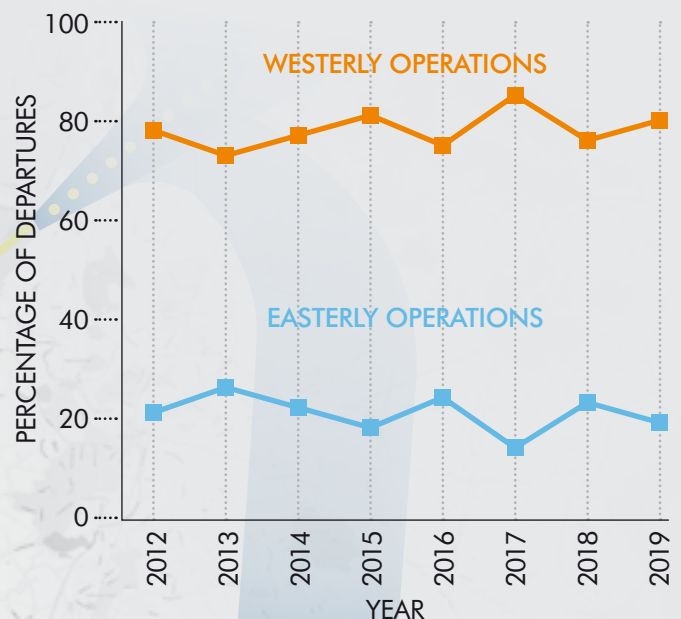
RUNWAY 1
RUNWAY 2

RUNWAY DIRECTION

For safety reasons, aircraft must land and take off into the wind. At Manchester Airport the wind usually blows from the west, meaning aircraft approach from the east (over Stockport and Heald Green) and take off to the west (towards Knutsford). This is known as 'westerly operations'.

Sometimes the wind direction changes and moves to the east. In this case, aircraft approach from the west (over Knutsford) and take off to the east (over Heald Green and Stockport). This is known as 'easterly operations'.

On average, between 70% and 80% of our departures each year will be westerly operations. In 2019 80% of flights were westerly operations and 20% of flights were easterly operations.



The wind direction may change several times in a day, so we may change our direction of operations to reflect this. The table above shows the percentage of movements in each direction over the last eight years.

ROUTES DEPARTING TO THE WEST

- There are four routes with westerly departures shown on this diagram. These are used for an average of 80% of our flights. In 2019 there were 32,067 departures on route SONEX1R (Runway 1) and route SONEX1Y (Runway 2) – 39% of all westerly departures.
- Our information is based on the most recent complete year, which was 2019, and our busiest month in that year (August), compared to our quietest month (April).
- The following graphics focus on the combined information from routes SONEX1R and SONEX1Y heading west and north travelling to northern Europe and the Far east.

RUNWAY USE (%)
 Actual summer 2019
 Predicted summer 2020

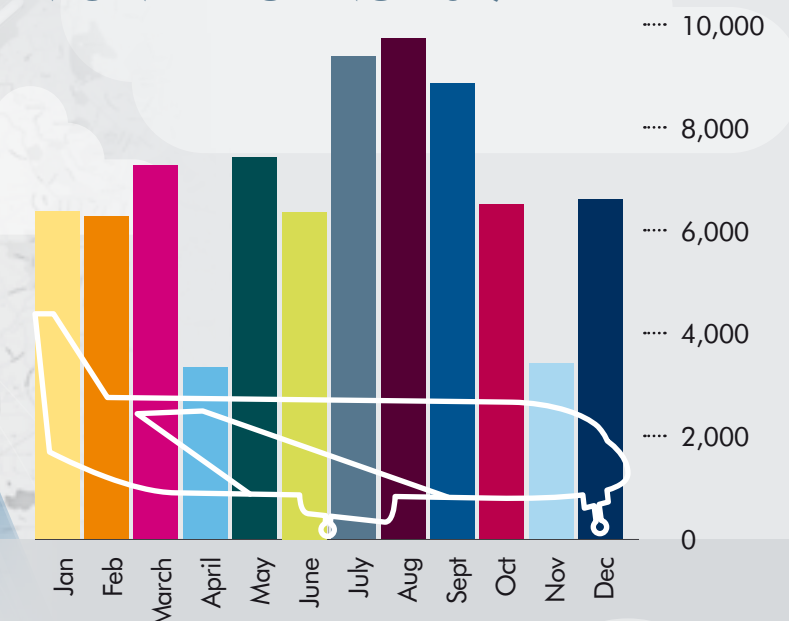
SONEX1R/Y
 39% 40%

EKLAD1R & EKLAD1Y
 31% 28%

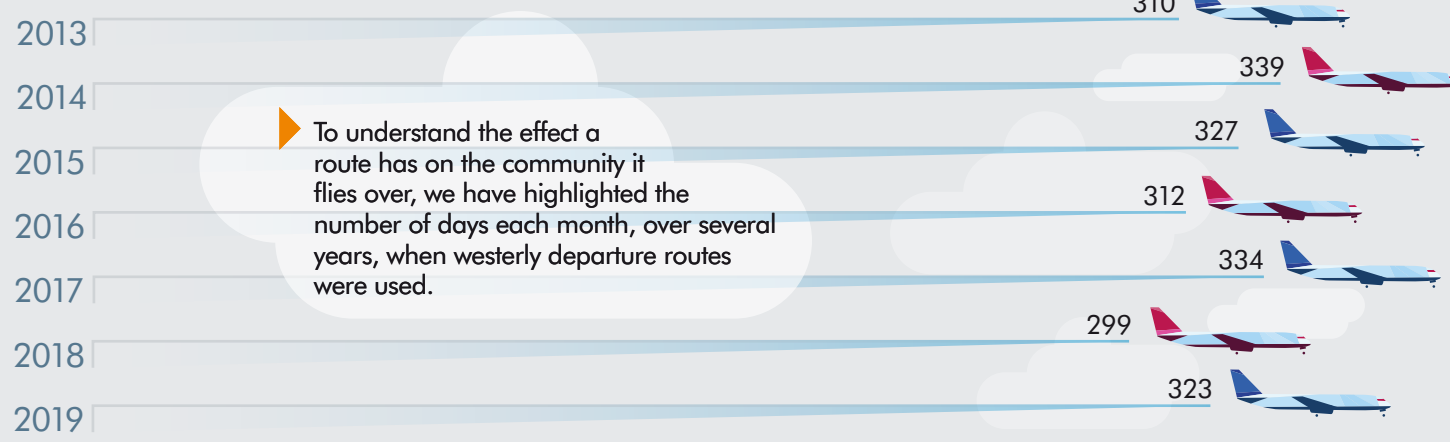
SANBA1R/Y
 26% 28%

LISTO2R/Y
 4% 3%

NUMBER OF WESTERLY DEPARTURES EACH MONTH DURING 2019

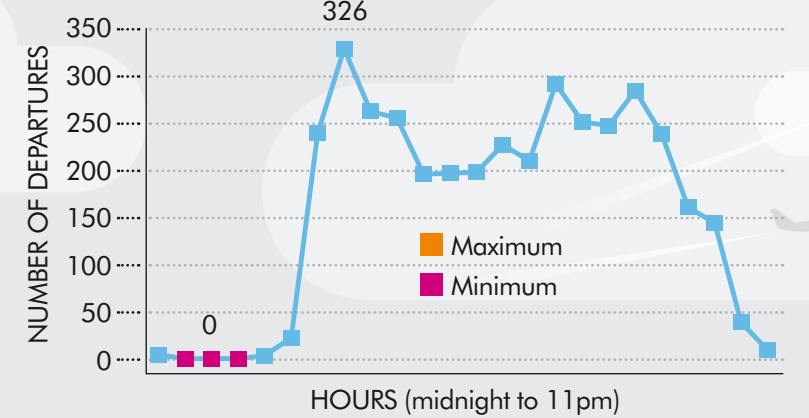


NUMBER OF DAYS WESTERLY DEPARTURES USED BY YEAR



To understand the effect a route has on the community it flies over, we have highlighted the number of days each month, over several years, when westerly departure routes were used.

TOTAL NUMBER OF DEPARTURES PER HOUR IN AUGUST 2019



In 2019, August was our busiest month of westerly operations on the SONEX1R and SONEX1Y route, when there were...

3773 departures

...while April was our quietest month.

1235 departures

Runway use depends on the wind direction, with westerly departures on SONEX1R or SONEX1Y routes for 31 days during August



...and with westerly operations on the SONEX1R or SONEX1Y routes on 15 days in April.

The maximum number of departures on a single day in August was

147

...compared with a maximum of 113 in April.

During August there were...

586

departures during the morning peak hours of 7 am to 9 am

compared with just...

38

during the night from 11 pm to 6 am.

In April there were...

205

departures during the afternoon period of 6 pm to 8 pm

compared with just...

9

during the night from 11 pm to 6 am.

POSITION OF AIRCRAFT ALONG ROUTES SONEX1R AND SONEX1Y

Currently aircraft navigate using navigational equipment on the ground close to and around our runways. A series of instructions will navigate the aircraft along the whole route (for example, to fly straight ahead for a set distance and then turn at a particular point to a compass bearing of...).

The accuracy with which an aircraft navigates depends on the following.

- The size of the aircraft
- The weight of the aircraft
- What technology the aircraft has on board
- Weather conditions

The map opposite shows the general position and spread of flights using the SONEX1R and SONEX1Y routes in August 2019. The colours show the position of aircraft on the route in August 2019. The key shows how frequently areas were flown over during August 2019.

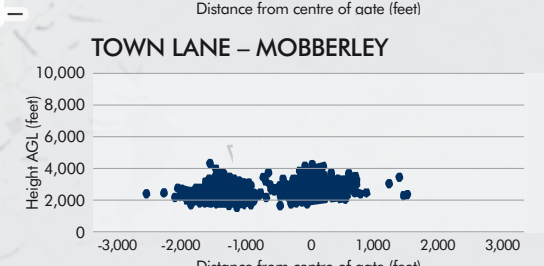
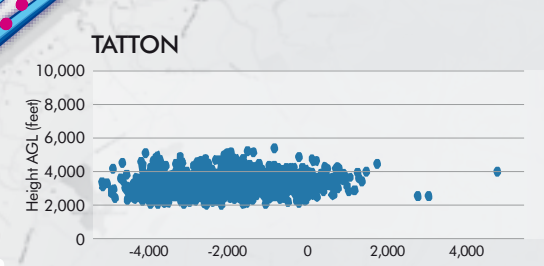
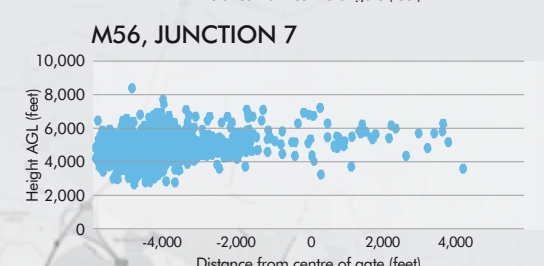
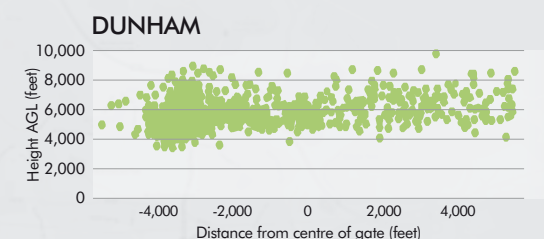
NORTHERLY / WESTERLY

Flight frequency during August 2019

- 200 to 3,000 flights
- 100 to 199 flights
- 50 to 99 flights
- 25 to 49 flights
- 3 to 24 flights
- SONEX1R and SONEX1Y

Runway 2 ends one mile further to the west than Runway 1, and 325 yards further south. In the diagram below you can see the two distinct runway departure routes close to the ends of the runways at Town Lane. The distance between the two departure routes increases as you move further along the routes.

The graphics below show the height of aircraft on the SONEX1R and SONEX1Y routes at the places marked on the routes. They show the concentration of aircraft in the centre of the routes and the height above sea level.



CHANGES IN THE FUTURE

AIRCRAFT

Over time, airlines will buy new aircraft. The improved engines are quieter and more efficient. The new sleeker plane is able to climb quicker and with less friction, significantly reducing noise and emissions. All of this is beneficial to communities that the aircraft fly over.

MODERNISING AIRSPACE

In February 2017, the Department for Transport published 'Upgrading UK Airspace'. This document reviewed how modern aircraft can use the new technology on board for greater efficiency and reduced noise. The current departure routes for aircraft are based on navigation equipment on the ground. Modern aircraft can replace this method of navigation by using satellites. Satellite-based routes enable aircraft to more accurately follow the centre lines of departure routes while maintaining safety.

The Government has said that all UK airports must make these changes, and in December 2017 the CAA issued guidance on how airports should manage change in a document called Airspace Design CAP1616. This is available on the CAA website.

The first stage in the modernisation process is for an airport to issue a Statement of Need to the CAA for them to approve the start of a change process. We did this in March 2019 so that the CAA could give approval for change. In 2019 we engaged with communities, through focus groups and an online questionnaire, to develop our Design Principles. The CAA have approved these and you can see them, and read about how we developed them, in our Executive Summary document at www.manchesterairport.co.uk/futureairspace. During 2020 we will follow the process set out in CAP1616 to continue with Stage 2 (developing and assessing options for changes to flight paths).

AIRSPACE LEVELS

A review of upper airspace (above 24,500 feet) is taking place. This will reposition some of the main airways over the UK to increase efficiency and improve the customer experience with less time in hold, more timely arrivals and departures and reduced emissions. This review process will also enable us to create the best possible design to make sure we can achieve Manchester Airport's potential by securing further routes to destinations around the world. This will create more jobs and boost the region's economy.

The changes relate to three levels of airspace.

- High level – over 7,000 feet where aircraft are travelling to or from their final destination
- Arrival – below 7,000 feet heading to the final destination airport
- Departure – between 0 and 7,000 feet leaving the airport to join the high level routes
- Changes that are above 7,000 feet will be managed by NATS.

ARRIVALS

Aircraft currently approach the airport they are landing at and wait for an instruction to land. Ideally, the approach is a continuous descent to land as this is fuel efficient and quiet.

If aircraft need to wait, they go into a 'holding pattern' away from the airfield. As a part of this project, NATS will examine if this is the best way to control aircraft approaching the airfield before they land.

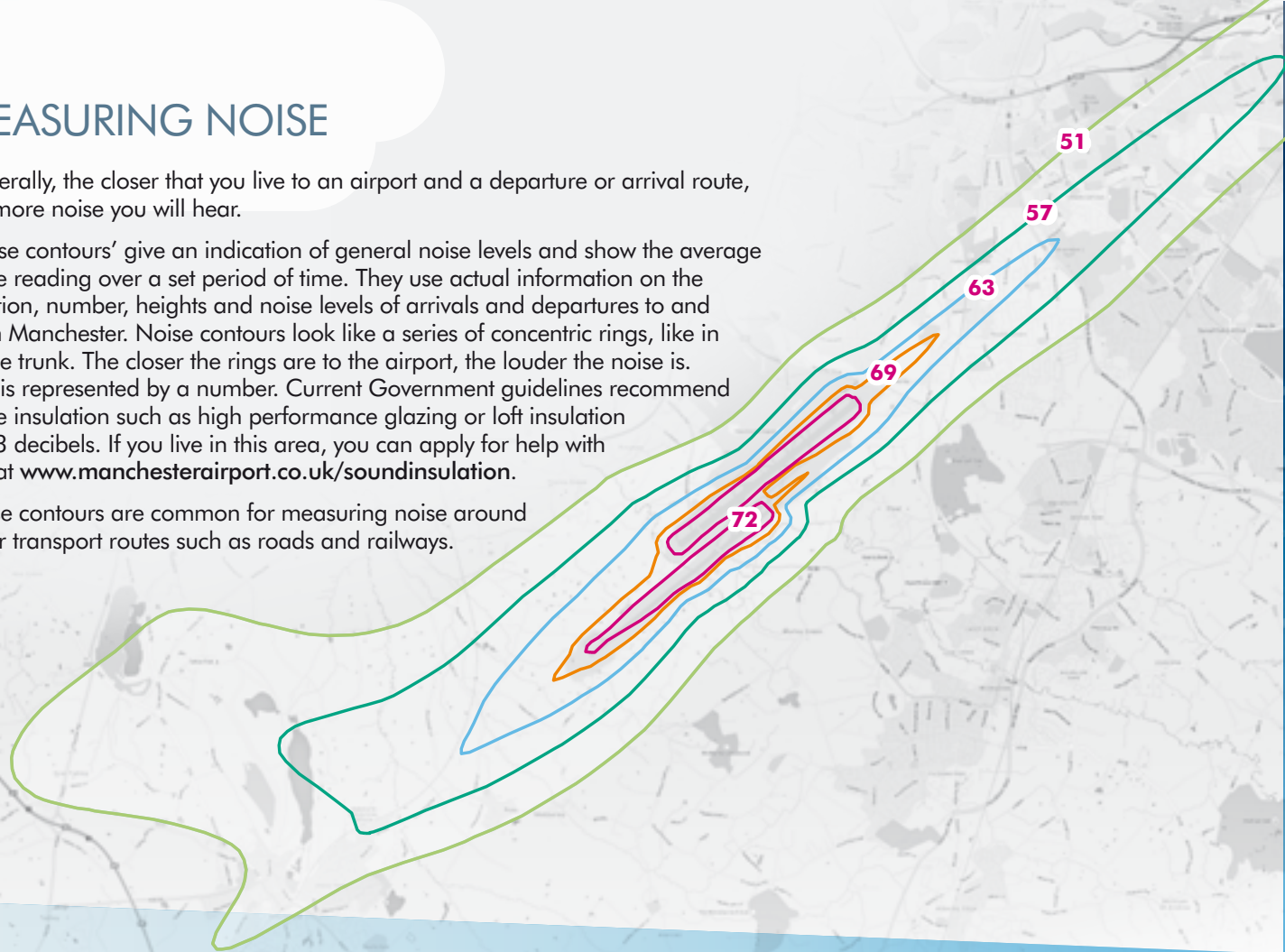
There is more information about arriving aircraft in our runway data sheet. You can find this at www.manchesterairport.co.uk/runwaydatasheet.

MEASURING NOISE

- ▶ Generally, the closer that you live to an airport and a departure or arrival route, the more noise you will hear.

'Noise contours' give an indication of general noise levels and show the average noise reading over a set period of time. They use actual information on the position, number, heights and noise levels of arrivals and departures to and from Manchester. Noise contours look like a series of concentric rings, like in a tree trunk. The closer the rings are to the airport, the louder the noise is. This is represented by a number. Current Government guidelines recommend noise insulation such as high performance glazing or loft insulation at 63 decibels. If you live in this area, you can apply for help with this at www.manchesterairport.co.uk/soundinsulation.

Noise contours are common for measuring noise around other transport routes such as roads and railways.



WANT TO KNOW MORE?

- ▶ There is a booklet like this one for each of our departure and arrival routes. Extra information is already available on our website in a range of formats including films and downloadable information sheets. You can see them at www.manchesterairport.co.uk/runwaydatasheet.

We will need to consult widely about changes to airspace in the future.

If you would like to be on a mailing list to make sure you receive information direct, please email future.airspace@manairport.co.uk.

If you would like to talk to us you could:

- phone our Freephone number (08000 967967);
- send an email to community.relations@manairport.co.uk;
- come to an outreach session (details are on our website at www.manchesterairport.co.uk/outreach).

You can watch aircraft movements and look at heights and positions over the ground using **webtrak**, which is on our website at www.manchesterairport.co.uk/webtrak.

