

Department for Transport

Survey of Noise Attitudes (SoNA) 2014: Aircraft Noise & Sleep Disturbance

Peer Review

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 Placewise Limited (PW) and Stephen Turner Acoustics Limited (STA) have been commissioned by the Department for Transport (DfT) to carry out a peer review of the analysis carried out on the SoNA2014 data focusing on Aircraft Noise and Sleep Disturbance (SoNA-Sleep).
- 1.2 The comments set out below provide the outcome of this peer review. They should be read in conjunction with the report PW/STA3 published as CAP1506c which describes the peer review of the first edition of CAP1506, published in 2017 and report PW/STA4 which describes the peer review of the second edition of CAP1506, published in 2021.
- 1.3 It is understood that the Department for Transport commissioned further analysis of the SoNA2014 data to see what conclusions might be drawn regarding the impact of aircraft noise on sleep disturbance. One key issue for that analysis is that the design and sampling of the SoNA2014 was aimed at understanding the impact of aircraft noise during the day. The data analysis regarding the impact on sleep disturbance could be no more than exploratory and great care is needed when drawing any conclusions from that analysis.
- 1.4 Having said that, some interesting results did arise and it has been possible to identify some recommendations for any future study into Aircraft Noise and Sleep Disturbance.

2. Review Process

- 2.1 The report's authors provided the peer reviewers with an initial draft of the analysis. The reviewers raised several issues ranging from:
 - Keeping the scope of the analysis reasonably contained given that the SoNA2014 survey did not have in mind exploring in detail the impact of aircraft noise on sleep disturbance. This had the effect of reducing