

Nayland with Wissington Conservation Society

Registered Charity 268104

30 Newlands Lane
Nayland
Suffolk CO6 4JJ

7th September 2020

To NATS

Dear Sirs,

RE: Dedham Vale AONB

The Society is a registered charity dedicated to the conservation of the parish of Nayland with Wissington which is located within the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty ("DVAONB").

I am sure you are aware that Section 85 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 provides that public bodies in exercising or performing any functions in relation to, or so as to affect, land in an area of outstanding natural beauty shall have regard to the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the area of outstanding natural beauty.

As you will know, the current route structure in your FASI-S programme was expressly designed to avoid overflying the DVAONB. I attach a copy of the map showing same as it appears in the NATS report to the Secretary of State for Transport dated May 2018 and it clearly indicates that all routes are avoiding the DVAONB. This was a deliberate and purposeful act, endorsed by the CAA and DfT.

I am also aware that NATS and the CAA were parties to an application for judicial review relating to flight routes over the DVAONB in 2005, as a result of which the objective of securing the protection of the unique environment and tranquillity of the DVAONB was acknowledged.

It is therefore, with considerable concern, that I and many others in this village and the surrounding area have noticed a substantial increase in aircraft passing directly over Nayland which lies very closely to the central point of the DVAONB.

In the circumstances I would be grateful if you would give me an assurance that NATS will endeavour to maintain its current route structure with a view to minimising the impact of aircraft noise on the smallest AONB in the UK and the only one where the tranquillity of the Vale landscapes immortalised by John Constable (and others) was at the heart of its designation.

I await your early response

Yours faithfully,

M J Hunter

Chairman

