

Press Release

SASIG 20th Anniversary Celebration

SASIG, the Strategic Aviation Special Interest Group of the Local Government Association, celebrated its 20th birthday at a special event on Wednesday 10th July at the Thames Pavilion, House of Commons.

Kemi Badenoch MP was host to SASIG members, stakeholders, partners and MPs, recognising the wide ranging spheres of work and ever increasing influence of SASIG, now the longest serving special interest group of the LGA and also one of the largest.

Introducing the guests, Kemi reinforced how aviation matters to all of us. How everyone is affected one way or another by it in their daily lives, whether it be for travel, jobs, supply chains, freight, the economic benefits or indeed conversely, the planning, noise and environmental impacts it generates. Evaluating and presenting a balanced view is why SASIG is so important.

“I would ask my parliamentary colleagues - those in this room and also those who have been unable to attend today – to take some time to find out about SASIG, its achievements and look at ways in which their own regions may benefit from ministerial involvement with this Group.”

Chairman Cllr Keith Artus reinforced this view by reminding guests of both the vision and mission of SASIG, “advancing sustainable aviation policy on behalf of local communities”.

He also said “SASIG has very helpful, supportive and thought provoking interaction and dialogue with our 30 local authority members together with ministers and bodies like, DfT, DEFRA, DCMS, CAA, NATS, ANEG, AOA, ICCAN to name a few. With SASIG’s expanding membership and extending reach this event not only celebrates our first 20 years, but is a springboard for our next!”

Key speakers, who gave a rousing cheer for SASIG, but also highlighting their own relationship and involvement, were Rob Light, the chairman of the newly formed Independent Commission of Civil Aviation Noise (ICCAN) and Steve Double MP for St Austell and Newquay.

The event was a great success, with Kemi's fellow MPs with airports in their region joining us, for instance, Sir Roger Gale MP, Luke Pollard MP, Steve Double MP and Stephen Metcalf MP.

Ends

Notes to Editors

You can find out more about SASIG at www.sasig.org.uk or by calling 0207 193 4231

Photographs below with captions, from left to right.

Attached is more info on SASIG.



Sir Roger Gale MP - Cllr Nigel Shaw (SASIG VC and Broadland DC) –
Surinderpal Suri (SASIG Hounslow) – Jackie Cheetham (SASIG
Honorary Vice President)-Kemi Badenoch MP-Cllr Ian Courts (Ldr,
Solihull Cncl) – Cllr Malcolm Richards (SASIG Wokingham) – Cllr
Harpreet Cheema (Slough BC) - Luke Pollard (MP) – Shamal Ratnayaka
(TfL) – Jim Bailey (AEF) – David Sleight (SASIG) – Basil O'Fee
(Northpoint) – Sophia Norfolk (SASIG Slough BC) – Karen Taylor
(Gloucestershire Airport) – Jamie Macrae (SASIG Hon. Vice President)
– Cllr Derek Mellor and Keith Willcox (SASIG Hampshire CC) –
Cameron Cain (Northpoint) – Chris Cain (Head of Secretariat, SASIG) –
Cllr Neil Reeve (SASIG Uttlesford DC) – Keith Artus (SASIG Chairman)
– Sam Hartley (ICCAN) – Jeremy Pine (SASIG Uttlesford DC)



Robert Light (Head Commissioner at ICCAN)



Jackie Cheetham (Honorary Vice President of SASIG)



Steve Double (MP for St Austell and Newquay)



John Coates (SASIG Richmond) - Zhanine Smith (Essex CC) – Keith Artus (SASIG Chairman) – Jeremy Pine (Uttlesford DC) – Sam Hartley (ICCAN) – Dr Andy Jefferson (Sustainable Aviation) – Kemi Badenoch MP– Jamie Macrae (Honorary Vice President SASIG).