NHDC Local Plan Examination in Public

Written Representation on Behalf of

Save Rural Codicote

Air Quality

Pollution from Motorised Vehicles

Residents of Codicote are very concerned that the serious matter of air quality and pollution in the village has not received appropriate attention and investigation by NHDC. In particular we are disappointed that air sample testing in and around the village has not been carried out.

Over the past two years the B656, through Codicote High Street, has experienced a significant growth in traffic volume. This has been mirrored by a similar growth in traffic using the A1(M). Anyone who has used the A1(M) around Junction 6, where the B656 connects with the A1(M), will have experienced the significant tailbacks that occur during morning and evening peak traffic times. These can extend for half a mile or more in both directions from the junction.

The consequence of this regular weekday congestion on the A1(M) is that many drivers (including larger vehicles and HGVs) use the B656 as a rat run alternative, via Codicote High Street.

For sometime now, the village residents have had concerns about the level of pollution that is occurring along the High Street, during peak traffic periods and the impact this may be having on the health of residents.
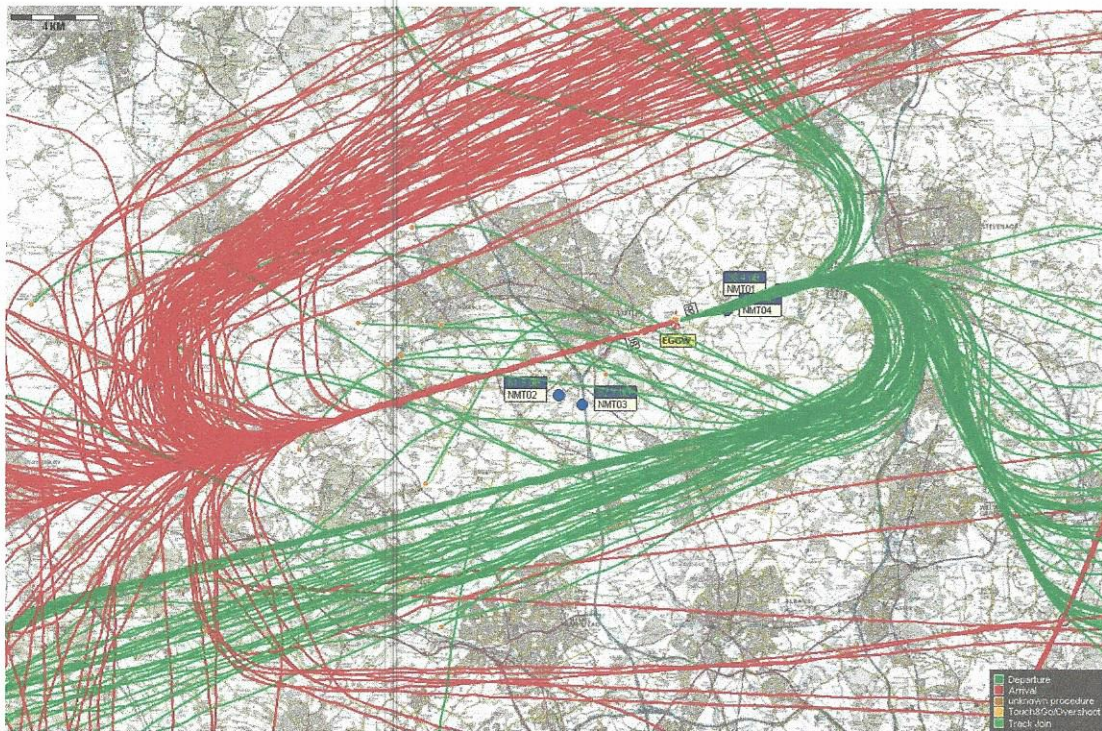
Aircraft Pollution

At Luton airport the wind direction is from the east for approximately 30% of the time. Under these conditions aircraft taking off fly directly over Codicote at a height of typically between 1800 and 2000ft, their exhaust emissions adding to the vehicle pollution highlighted above.

Conclusion

Given these concerns we have therefore concluded, and consider it important, that as a Duty of Care, NHDC be requested to carry out tests urgently to measure the air quality and levels of pollution in the village, particularly along Codicote High Street, the B656.

Luton Airport flight tracks – easterly

LUTON AIRPORT FLIGHT TRACKS – EASTERLY

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