

Leo Clancy

Chief Executive Officer

28 February 2022

Ref: Aircraft Noise Competent Authority Draft Regulatory Decision re: North Runway

Dear Sir / Madam

Enterprise Ireland welcomes this opportunity to comment on the Aircraft Noise Competent Authority's Draft Regulatory Decision re: the North Runway. Enterprise Ireland is the state agency responsible for supporting Irish manufacturing and internationally traded services companies to start, scale and succeed in international markets. The agency also has responsibility for foreign direct investment in the food and natural resources area.

As an island, international air connectivity is fundamental to Ireland's international competitiveness and ultimately our trading performance in both goods and services. Optimising the use of national infrastructure is vital for maintaining and enhancing Ireland's international connectivity.

The connectivity that underpins the competitiveness of Irish enterprise to trade internationally is critically important, in particular:

- **Full working day in market:** This is of particular relevance for the European market, with early morning departures and late evening return arrivals being critically important to enable businesses to conduct same-day business trips to Europe. Facilitating same day travel supports the international competitiveness of Irish enterprise, relative to competing jurisdictions, from both a cost, employee productivity, and geographical location perspective.
- **Movement of night-time cargo:** Annually, night flights carry approximately €19 billion worth of imports and exports. This enables Irish enterprise to operate with next day delivery, and also supports the transport of time critical products, such as documents, food, and medical and pharmaceutical products. Given the structural disruption to supply chains caused by Brexit, it is vital that Ireland's connectivity to Europe and other international markets for cargo movements is enhanced and supported.
- **Onward connectivity to international destinations:** Ireland's role as a hub for onward connection to European markets plays an important role in growing international flights into Ireland, thereby increasing access to international markets for Irish enterprise. This supports the market diversification activities of Irish enterprise, and in doing so, underpins the resilience of the Irish enterprise base.

The Draft Regulatory Decision provides the operational flexibility required for Dublin Airport to recover essential connectivity in a post-Covid environment to support the competitiveness of Irish enterprise.

Enterprise Ireland respectfully asks Fingal County Council to give due consideration to upholding the Aircraft Noise Competent Authority's Draft Regulatory Decision given:

- the importance of timely connectivity to support a full working day in the market; the movement of night-time cargo and onward connectivity to international destinations in supporting the competitiveness of Irish enterprise; and
- the commitment of Government, through *Global Ireland, Enterprise 2025 and the National Development Plan* to support Irish enterprise in international markets.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leo Clancy', with a stylized, cursive script.

Leo Clancy