

Water Resources

Report 2006

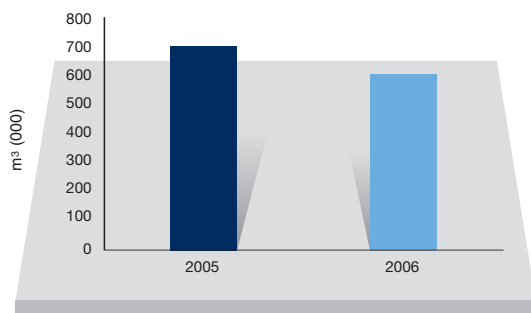
Objective: "To use less mains water and to control activities and developments on site to help improve the quality of local watercourses"

Our Environment Plan to 2030 sets out our policies and targets for controlling environmental impacts associated with the Airport's activities. This report presents progress against those targets and actions.

Water consumption

Mains water is used for toilet facilities, catering, construction and on aircraft for drinking water. It is returned to the foul sewer for treatment at United Utilities' wastewater treatment site.

There are 2 main water meters and several smaller meters that monitor the amount of water coming on to the site. We also have sub-meters to enable us to track water use within specific buildings or areas.

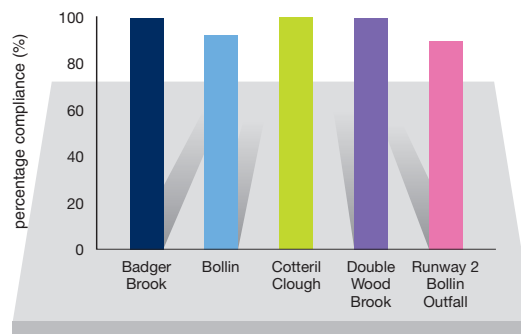


Water consumption

Surface water quality

Rainwater runoff from the Airport's operation is discharged into the River Bollin and a number of small streams bordering the site. There are many potential sources of water pollution associated with the airport's operation including aircraft and airfield anti-icing, aircraft servicing, vehicle maintenance, fuel and oil storage, construction activities and fire training.

To protect the water quality and aquatic life within the rivers and streams, the Environment Agency imposes stringent limits on the quality of water that may be discharged from the Airport site. We work closely with our own staff, service partners and contractors on site to prevent pollution. In addition, our drainage system allows us to divert runoff contaminated with winter deicing products into the foul sewer.



Compliance with discharge consent

We regularly monitor the drainage into the rivers in addition to the sampling carried out by our regulators.

Three samples taken by the EA failed the consent conditions in 2006.

Two failures were at the Bollin Outfall where the consent is held by United Utilities. One of these was a minor failure with no obvious cause. The second followed a period of heavy deicing activity and is believed to be due to the drainage outside a tenant's premises being put back to watercourse before the deicing fluid had fully washed off. A thorough review of the infrastructure and procedures will prevent recurrence in the future.

One failure was on the Runway 2 outfall into the Bollin. There was no obvious cause.



We will cap our own mains water use to 2005 levels until at least 2010.



Across the site, we used 100,000 m³ less water in 2006 than in 2005, a reduction of around 15%.



We will comply with Environment Agency discharge consent conditions.



The overall compliance rate for 2006 was 96%.

2006 Actions and Progress

Reduce water consumption in toilet facilities

Water saving devices were installed in toilet facilities across the site following a successful trial. This included water saving urinals and hippo bags in toilet cisterns. This has helped to reduce consumption by around 15%. An updated design standard for toilet facilities was also produced which will incorporate water saving devices as standard for new developments.

Fire training rig drainage

A new fire training rig was installed during 2006. This rig runs on Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and aviation fuel and allows the fire service to continue to undertake realistic training for a range of aircraft fire scenarios and also to test the foam discharge from the fire appliances. As part of the project, the area of hardstanding was increased. This increased drainage area continues to pass to foul sewer via an oil interceptor.

Review major spillage procedure

The procedure for dealing with major spillages was reviewed and improved. Additional spill response equipment has been purchased and a protocol developed for equipment held by different companies to be shared in the event of a major spill.

Audit of tenants' and contractors' facilities and procedures

There is an ongoing programme to monitor tenants' and contractors' compliance with water pollution prevention requirements. Reviews were undertaken at the in-flight catering centres, aircraft maintenance hangars and on handling agents. A pollution prevention awareness campaign was also carried out across the site.

Focus for 2007

The main areas of work in 2007 will include the following:

- Review of rainwater harvesting opportunities, especially for use in airfield and contractors' sweepers;
- Review of options to treat surface runoff;
- Use of new airfield anti-icing equipment with GPS to optimise fluid use;
- Undertake Phase 2 of a drainage strategy study.
- Install a billing system for aircraft water supply.



2006