

Annex I2: Community Impact Statements

Completed Statements from Affected Residents

103 unique respondents, collected February 2026 via dublin-north-runway.com

Submitted in support of:

- Communication to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee
- Complaint to the European Commission (DG Environment and DG MOVE)
- Petition to the European Parliament Committee on Petitions (PETI)

Methodology

Residents of East Meath and North Fingal were invited to complete an impact statement form (Annex I1) through the NRTG website (dublin-north-runway.com). The form asked structured questions about noise experience, health effects, consultation awareness, complaint history, and property impact. Respondents were asked whether their name could be used in submissions. Those who requested anonymity are identified by location and county only. The form was open during February 2026 and received 103 unique responses (deduplicated by email address; where a respondent submitted more than once, only the latest submission was retained).

Full individual responses are available to the Committee, Commission, or Parliament on request.

Consent and Anonymisation

- Consent to use name: 63 respondents
- Anonymity requested: 40 respondents

All quotations from anonymised respondents are attributed as "Resident, [area], [county]."

Geographic Distribution

County	Unique Respondents
Fingal	69
Meath	33
Other	1
Total	103

Fingal locations: Portmarnock (14), The Ward (7), Kilsallaghan (7), Ballyboughal (6), Malahide (5), Donabate (4), Ballystrahan (2), Coolatrath (2), Dublin 13 (2), Rush (2), Oldtown (1), Kilcoskan (1), Swords (1), Rolestown (1), Balgriffin (1), Shallon (1), Laurestown (1), Skephubble (1), Coolquay (1), St Margarets (1), other Fingal (3)

Meath locations: Ratoath (10), Ashbourne (9), Baltrasna (4), The Ward (3), Fairyhouse (1), White Ash (1), Kilrue (1), Garden City (1), Muckerstown (1), Robertstown (1), other Meath (1)

Key Statistics

Measure	Result
Frequency of impact: Daily	82 of 103 (80%)
Frequency: Several times a week	16 of 103 (16%)
Sleep disruption reported	100 of 103 (97%)
Gardens rendered unusable	96 of 103 (93%)
Work disruption (especially WFH)	69 of 103 (67%)
Impact on children	66 of 103 (64%)
Mental health impact (anxiety, depression, stress)	54 of 103 (52%)
Unaware of daa's 2016 consultation	77 of 103 (75%)
Not informed by any authority	100 of 103 (97%)
Made complaints to daa	79 of 103 (77%)
Considered moving	71 of 103 (69%)
Property value affected or unknown	101 of 103 (98%)
Insulation offered by daa	12 of 103 (12%)

Bodies contacted by respondents: Fingal County Council (64), local TD or councillor (62), ANCA (35), Meath County Council (16), Ombudsman (8).

Common Themes

1. Sleep disruption (near-universal)

Of 103 respondents, 100 report sleep disruption. 82 describe being affected daily. The most severe describe being woken between 4am and 6am and being unable to sleep until after the 11pm curfew. Several report using earplugs, noise-cancelling headphones, or booking hotel stays to get rest.

2. Loss of garden and outdoor spaces

96 respondents report their gardens have become unusable. Social events, outdoor entertaining, and simply sitting outside are no longer possible.

3. Mental health and stress

54 respondents report anxiety, depression, stress, or irritability. Several have sought medical treatment or therapy specifically due to noise-related distress.

4. Failure of public consultation and notification

Of 103 respondents, 77 were not aware of daa's 2016 public consultation. 100 were not informed by any authority that their home would be under the flight path.

5. Ineffective complaints system

79 respondents have made complaints to daa, universally receiving generic auto-responses or no response at all. Several stopped complaining because the system appeared futile.

6. Property value and forced displacement

71 of 103 respondents have considered moving because of the noise. Multiple respondents have already sold and moved, describing the experience in terms of grief and loss.

7. Health impacts (blood pressure, cardiovascular)

Multiple respondents report being put on blood pressure medication or having cardiovascular episodes they associate with noise stress. One respondent, a cardiovascular patient who had a triple bypass at age 44, reports being trapped: unable to sell because the property is under the deviated flight path, and aware from peer-reviewed research that aircraft noise exposure is a causative factor for early morbidity and mortality given his pre-existing condition.

8. Impact on children

66 respondents report impacts on children: sleep disruption, difficulty studying, headaches, fear of low-flying aircraft, and inability to play outdoors.

9. Work-from-home disruption

69 respondents report disruption to work, especially working from home. Multiple remote workers report being unable to conduct calls due to noise. One respondent has been forced to reduce to part-time work because disrupted sleep leaves insufficient recovery for a full working week.

10. Insulation inadequacy

Only 12 of 103 respondents were offered insulation by daa. Those who received insulation report it only helps with windows and vents closed, which is impractical in summer and does nothing for garden use.

Timeline

Nearly all respondents trace the onset to August 2022 (opening of the North Runway), with some noting worsening from February/March 2023 as traffic volumes increased.

Statements from Residents (Consent Given to Use Name)

Eoin Keary, Ratoath, Meath (20-year resident): "I have to put in noise cancelling earphones at 6:00 every day with brown noise playing to sleep until 7:30. Sleep is disrupted 7 days a week. My wife has commented I've aged due to the stress. We have decided to sell up and move."

Declan Hannigan, Kilsallaghan, Fingal (59-year resident): "I had a role that required me to work from home most days. During conference calls I had to go on mute. This came to a head and unfortunately resulted in me having to cease that role after 11 years."

Alan Lynch, Kilsallaghan, Fingal: "My family and I are awoken from 6am daily. It's created health issues for some of us. We've required medical assistance for stress and anxiety. We've contacted all major bodies. No action, just fobbed off."

Georgina Gaughan, Fingal (13-year resident): "We believe this is unlawful and undemocratic. This reduces our motivations to reduce our emissions as a family. Why should we suffer for others and then

Mark Prendergast, Ballystrahan, Fingal (songwriter/musician, 10-year resident): "I've gone to therapy to try different techniques to ignore the noise but it hasn't helped. It's depressing. I've had two housemates move out because of the noise, which has cost me financially. I'm afraid to sell the house because of how much money I will lose on it. The planes have completely ruined any possibility of starting a family here."

Orlaith and Kevin Dwyer, The Ward, Fingal (36-year residents): "Complete and utter sadness. Feeling totally neglected by our county council and government. Our two-year-old struggles to get to sleep and is woken every morning at 6am."

Albert Rattigan, Coolatrath, The Ward, Fingal (resident since 1972): "I have been put on high blood pressure medication for the first time in the last 18 months. It is a shocking indictment for our Democracy that several arms of the State are flouting the law."

Esther Cassidy, Ratoath, Meath (healthcare worker): "As a healthcare worker I know how damaging this is to my health. I am very concerned about the tiredness at work and driving. I am in a state of constant anxiety and stress. Our dream home has been destroyed by the flight path directly over our home."

Breffni Conaty, Coolquay, Fingal: "We no longer take family cycles in the area as we can't hear cars coming. Too dangerous."

Donal Nugent, Donabate, Fingal (5-year resident): "People used to comment on the quietness outside. It is a completely different story now. I am actually considering selling my property."

Maurice O'Donnell, Coolatrath, Fingal (30-year resident): "I am a keen gardener and I find it extremely stressful when flights are going over every minute. Long-haul flights are particularly noisy, making it impossible to listen to music or podcast material when wearing headphones. Conversation is impossible."

Joseph Smith, Portmarnock, Fingal: "The problem with complaining is that there is no one agency that coordinates these noise and pollution complaints into a proper database. It's totally fragmented by design. If it's impossible to complain then you have no complaints."

Gerry Treanor, Baltrasna, Meath (39-year resident): "I have had two heart attacks in 2009 and a stroke in 2020 and it is difficult enough for me to sleep without these planes flying overhead."

Kieran Keavey, Ratoath, Meath (26-year resident): "DAA sent someone to our house in 2024. They acknowledged the noise levels were above permitted levels and we haven't heard from them since."

Joe Cummins, Kilsallaghan, Fingal: "Every flight deviates from the path we were consulted about, which flew 5 miles straight off the runway prior to deviating, and at that height noise levels would be considerably less."

Claire McCarville, Swords, Fingal: "I have tried earplugs, they do not work. I am exhausted and as a result run down and picking up more infections. I have to take regular hotel stays to get a break from the noise."

Grainne Dollard, St Margarets, Fingal (65-year resident): "I was diagnosed with MS just over 2 years ago and one of the worst symptoms is fatigue. Due to the noise morning, noon and night, some days I am wall-falling from the lack of sleep. Our garden is a no-go area. Due to my diagnosis I have to walk a lot to make sure I don't lose mobility. Again this is a nightmare due to the noise and the smell of the fuels released from the planes."

Niamh Cronin, Coolquay, Fingal (22-year resident): "My youngest son has autism and cannot sleep. He gets distressed with the noise and this affects him with dysregulation. He has sensory processing

disorder and auditory senses are very heightened so sound is affecting him very badly."

Vincent O'Donoghue, Corrstown, Kilsallaghan, Fingal (20-year resident): "Friends are leaving the locality which is worrying on a social level."

Judith O'Brien, Ratoath, Meath (30-year resident): "I am woken at 5:30am as flights go directly over my house. The noise is so loud at times we cannot have a conversation and there are vibrations felt. I have asthma. Is that not enough?"

Statements from Residents (Anonymised)

Resident, Ballyboughal, Fingal (community council spokesperson, 28-year resident): "I have been on anti-depressants since November 2022 in order to help me cope with the damage to the quality of life in our home. The fact that the flight paths bear no resemblance to the flight paths in the DAA's planning application, and that neither Fingal County Council nor ANCA have taken any serious action, has added to this stress and anxiety. In a survey of local residents in 2022 we obtained names and contact details from over 140 households asking us to complain to the authorities on their behalf."

Resident, Shallon, Fingal (13-year resident, cardiovascular patient): "I am a cardiovascular patient having had a triple bypass in Oct 2022 at the age of 44 years. I am aware of the data driven, evidence based, peer reviewed scientific publications which have identified exposure to aircraft noise as a causative factor for early morbidity and mortality. I am aware that my pre-existing condition predisposes me to being highly susceptible to poor outcome as a result of exposure to aircraft noise. However, I am trapped. I cannot sell my home as it is under the deviated flightpath."

Resident, Ratoath, Meath (27-year resident): "Due to the disrupted sleep, I no longer work full time. I simply can't recover enough in a night to do a full week. I'm sure this is going to have knock on effects on my health unless I move."

Resident, Ratoath, Meath (23-year resident, first responder household): "I work unsocial hours, and sometimes need to be in bed at 8pm, and planes fly directly over my house, making it very difficult to sleep. I drive for a living, making me unsafe on the road. Three people in my house work unsociable hours, including a first responder. All of us are being disturbed in our sleep due to these illegal flights."

Resident, Ratoath, Meath (15-year resident): "Over time this is affecting my mental health more and more. The interrupted sleep and frustration caused by the growling sound of low planes is gradually affecting my mood and peace. I find myself more irritable and stressed. Everyone in the family share the same feelings. I work from home and the airplane noise has a major impact. With the windows closed, the aircraft noise is very loud making it difficult to concentrate, but if opened it is simply impossible. I cannot have a call with the roar of engines in the background."

Resident, Ballyboughal, Fingal (3-year resident): "We chose this house in early 2022 because we reviewed the flight and noise maps for the North Runway and they were not intended to be an issue in Ballyboughal. We are strong believers in the planning process and rule of law, so to require planning permission to make minor changes to our home we find it unacceptable that businesses can ignore far more impactful planning decisions."

Resident, Rolestown, Fingal (5-year resident): "I have serious health issues including chronic headaches. I have a history of breast cancer and have done research and found an increased risk of recurrence of breast cancer for those close to flightpaths. This knowledge is so worrying. I have informed the DAA of all my health issues. They have totally ignored my health issues."

Resident, Laurestown, St Margarets, Fingal (80-year resident): "My husband has COPD and is to try take

little walks daily. However this is not possible due to the fuel pollution from the overhead aircraft and the noise of same. My grandchildren used to visit but no longer due to their sleep interruption and inability to enjoy free play outdoors."

Resident, Ashbourne, Meath (42-year resident): "Every week I feel stress and anxiety. It is constantly on my mind. It is a horrible feeling of injustice."

Resident, Skephubble, St Margarets, Fingal (26-year resident, shift worker): "Frustration in the lack of accountability. The lived experience is not taken into account at all. You have no voice."

Resident, Genista Cottage, Fingal (8-year resident, aviation industry worker): "Ruining a 200-year cottage and peaceful living for the profit of a few. This is not progress."

Resident, Newtown, The Ward, Fingal (28-year resident, three generations displaced): "Three generations of my family (my parents, me, and my child) were effectively chased out of the property due to the noise from flights as a direct consequence of the DAA's actions. My parents spent nearly 30 years working six-day weeks and forgoing foreign holidays to spend their time and money on improving that property. Our family home was **STOLEN** from my parents by the callous, self-servicing and immoral actions of the airport authorities, and the cowardice of the bodies who are put in place to stop such behaviour. When a family friend recently asked my mother how she could have possibly gone without foreign holidays for so many years she told them that 'spending time in my home and in my garden with my husband, my kids and my pets was my foreign holiday, and I loved it.' We are heartbroken."

Resident, Kilcoskan, Fingal (43-year resident): "My children attend Kilcoskan National School which is severely impacted by the unapproved flight path going over the school at 85dB. Someone recently commented that they flew over my home and could see everything."

Resident, Ballystrahan, Fingal (57-year resident): "My mobility is diminishing so I did depend on my surroundings to get exercise but that is simply not possible now. I love my home but miss the peaceful place that it was."

Resident, Ashbourne, Meath (forced to sell and move): "I couldn't stand the noise, vibration and sight of the aircraft so I sold the house which I had equipped for our retirement and the garden we had worked on and loved for years. I still miss both my home and garden and it feels much like a death in the family on a daily basis. I am still grieving for the loss. My grandchildren were afraid of the approaching low-flying large aircraft and used to run up the garden and hide."

Resident, Kilrue, Meath (75-year resident, family there 85 years): "I did have hypertension prior to 2022 and was on one antihypertensive tablet daily. Since January 2023, my blood pressure fluctuates with alarming readings and symptoms resulting in admissions to A&E. I am now on three different antihypertensive medications."

Resident, Ashbourne, Meath (forced to move from Newtown, The Ward): "Have slept through the night for only two nights for the last three and a half years. Just as I retired from work after 40 years, instead of beginning to enjoy what we put the best of our lives into, I found myself having cardiac tests and selling our dream home. Broke up our family unit. Our son and grandchild lived with us but didn't move to Ashbourne with us."

Resident, Ballyboughal, Fingal: "Haven't sat in my garden since the north runway opened. The planes fly directly over my house now. What should be a relaxing time is actually more stressful. Thanks to the Irish government (who owns the DAA) I don't rest at home or in my garden."

Resident, Ashbourne, Meath (20-year resident): "I don't think I can remain living here when I retire as I will be home even more."

Resident, The Ward, Fingal (9-year resident): "New patios are mostly unused due to noise. Boilerplate

response from daa saying no issues and flights are inside the environmental corridor that daa itself sets."

Resident, Muckerstown, Meath (33-year resident): "The aircraft flying over our house has destroyed the enjoyment of our home and garden. The noise just gets into your head causing stress, we are constantly waiting for a break in the flights when we can get a little respite."

Relevance to EU Law

Environmental Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)

The scale of sleep disruption (100 of 103 respondents, 82 affected daily, many describing chronic sleep deprivation for over three years) directly engages the health protections that strategic noise mapping and action plans under the Directive are meant to deliver.

Aarhus Convention (Public Participation)

77 of 103 respondents were unaware of daa's 2016 public consultation. 100 were not informed by any authority. This constitutes a near-total failure of notification, directly relevant to Article 6 of the Aarhus Convention.

Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2011/92/EU)

Respondents consistently describe flights turning early over populated areas rather than flying straight out for five nautical miles as conditioned. This is consistent with NRTG's analysis that the actual operations represent a material change from the assessed project, requiring a new EIA.

Key data points for the Committee, Commission, and Parliament

- 103 unique affected respondents across Fingal, Meath, and Dublin
 - Cardiovascular health impacts documented (A&E admissions, new blood pressure medication, triple bypass patient trapped under flight path)
 - Impact on vulnerable populations: elderly, children, people with pre-existing conditions (MS, autism, COPD, cancer history)
 - 77 of 103 unaware of 2016 consultation (near-total failure of notification)
 - 71 have considered moving; documented financial and emotional harm, including multi-generational displacement
 - Only 12 offered insulation; those who received it report inadequacy
 - First responders and shift workers reporting road safety risk from sleep deprivation
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Compiled by: North Runway Technical Group, February 2026

Full individual responses available on request: gobrien@yupon.com