

North Runway Technical Group

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29 August 2025

Minister Darragh O'Brien
Department of Transport
Leeson Lane
Dublin 2, D02 TR60

Re: Lack of Response to Repeated Correspondence and Ministerial Meeting

Dear Minister,

I am writing further to three formal letters sent to you on 24 April 2025, concerning:

1. **Legal, Environmental, and Governance Failures at Dublin Airport** – specifically, the operation of unauthorised flight paths from the North Runway and the resulting invalidation of the Environmental Impact Statement and 2007 planning permission.
2. **The Technical Suitability of the Board of daa plc** – highlighting the absence of directors with aviation, engineering, environmental, or public health expertise required to competently steward critical national infrastructure.
3. **Your Department's Corporate Governance Responsibilities** – emphasising your dual role both as Minister overseeing regulation and as shareholder proxy of daa, and calling for remedial action to restore lawful governance.

Each of these letters requested a written reply within 21 days. None has been answered.

Separately, I addressed a detailed letter by recorded delivery to your Assistant Secretary, Ms. Ethna Brogan, on her statutory responsibilities as Director General of Civil Aviation. That letter has not even been acknowledged.

Since sending this correspondence, we also had the opportunity to meet with you in person. Unfortunately, Ms. Brogan was unable to attend, and there has been no follow-up of any kind from the Department officials who did. None of the substantive concerns raised in our written correspondence or at that meeting have been addressed.

The combined effect is a troubling pattern of silence from your Department in the face of well-documented statutory, environmental, and governance breaches. This absence of engagement not only undermines public trust, but risks leaving the State exposed to escalating liability before the European Commission, the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee, the courts, and the communities directly affected.

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May I therefore ask:

- When may I expect a considered response to my three letters of 24 April?
- And when will your Assistant Secretary, or your office, acknowledge the letter sent to her by recorded post?
- What steps, if any, have your officials taken to act on the matters raised at our subsequent meeting?

Minister, these issues go to the core of lawful governance of Dublin Airport. They demand not further delay but clear answers and decisive action. I respectfully request your prompt reply.

Regards,

G O'Brien

Gareth O'Brien

Gareth O'Brien BE (Civil) MSc
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This Document has been Signed with a **secure electronic signature** via E-Sign.

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