

BRISTOL AIRPORT VORTEX STRATEGY

Bristol Airport's Vortex Strategy is designed to protect those residents who sustain roof damage by aircraft vortices.

Vortices are circulating currents of air caused by moving aircraft. Whilst most vortices are broken up by the natural flow of air before they reach the ground, sometimes they do reach roof level causing movement or slippage of tiles. The likelihood and scope of vortex damage is extremely low and localised, usually only occurring during quiet, summer conditions. In contrast, wind damage tends to be more common and catastrophic, affecting many buildings within the same area over a period ranging from minutes to hours. We have personnel available who can determine whether or not particular roof damage has resulted from an aircraft vortex.

A boundary has been identified, within which vortex damage is most likely to occur. This area is close to the runway centreline, out to a distance of 1-2 kilometres. Further details can be obtained by contacting our Community Liaison Manager.

Bristol International Airport is not liable for vortex damage. The liability lies with the operator of the aircraft concerned and this is governed by Section 76 (2) of the 1982 Civil Aviation Act. In view of the fact that identification of the aircraft is not always possible, Bristol International Airport has introduced a vortex repair scheme as part of its commitment to the local community. If you think you have experienced vortex damage, contact our vortex damage help line immediately. Please record and provide the following information:-

- 1. The exact time of the occurrence, if known.
- 2. The extent and nature of the damage.
- 3. If you are the property owner, your name, address and telephone number.
- 4. If you are not the property owner, the owners name, address and telephone number.
- 5. Details of the aircraft concerned. If you were not able to identify the aircraft, please state why you think vortex damage was responsible for the incident.

Once we are aware of your problem, we will visit within 24 hours. If you have a valid claim, immediate arrangements will be made for repairs to your roof. If your property falls within the area in which vortex damage is most likely to occur, you may also be eligible for a new roof covering at a later date.

If you live outside the protected area but suspect vortex damage Bristol International Airport will investigate your enquiry. Should damage be confirmed, repairs will be carried out. This will not, however, make the property eligible for re-roofing.

Who can you contact for further details?

Mike Littleton Community Relations Administration Building Bristol Airport Bristol BS48 3DY

Telephone 01275 475748 (Voice mail service outside normal office hours)

E-mail: mlittleton@bristolairport.com