

# Improving the Living Environment Around Schiphol



Maatschappelijke  
Raad Schiphol

The Civic Advisory Board Schiphol (MRS) is committed to improving the quality of life for residents living near Schiphol Airport. The negative effects of the airport on health, space, and the environment must be addressed.

The MRS focuses on the following key measures:

- **A Balanced Size for Schiphol**

Aircrafts cause noise disturbance and health problems. The MRS advocates for fewer (transfer) flights. A balanced Schiphol is essential for the health of local residents and will help make future housing development possible.

- **Reducing Noise Pollution**

The MRS calls for noise levels around Schiphol to be reduced to meet the guidelines for maximum noise levels by the World Health Organization (WHO).

- **Night Closure of Schiphol**

Night flights disrupt residents' sleep and harm their health. The MRS proposes closing Schiphol between 23:00 and 07:00 to prevent sleep disturbance.

- **Health Research**

Aviation contributes to air and soil pollution around Schiphol. The MRS calls for more research into the health effects of this pollution, as well as the use of sulfur-free kerosene to reduce harmful emissions.

- **Legal Protection and Enforcement**

Residents must be better protected against noise pollution. The MRS urges strict enforcement of noise levels and more monitoring locations to ensure compliance. The government must guarantee a "fair balance" for local residents.

- **Support for Local Residents**

Residents experiencing disturbance should receive active government support, for example through compensation or facade insulation programmes. These measures should be regularly monitored and adjusted where necessary.

- **Independent Complaint Registration**

An independent body should be established to register and analyse residents' complaints. This ensures complaints are taken seriously and helps improve aviation policies.

- **Climate Policy for Aviation**

Aviation is a major polluter but currently not included in the Dutch Climate Act. The MRS believes aviation should contribute to achieving national climate goals — for example, by including the aviation sector in the Climate Act and introducing a CO<sub>2</sub> cap per airport.

- **Alternatives to Air Travel**

To reduce dependency on air travel, the MRS advocates for better and more attractive alternatives such as international train and bus connections. Improved organisation of these alternatives will make sustainable travel easier and more appealing.



## What does the Civic Advisory Board Schiphol (MRS) work on?

The Civic Advisory Board Schiphol (Maatschappelijke Raad Schiphol - MRS) is a legally recognised advisory board representing local residents. This Board advises the Dutch Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management on decisions around Schiphol that affect the living environment.

The MRS focuses on improving the quality of life in the region around Schiphol and gives local residents and civil society organisations a voice in the decision-making process on aviation policy.

The MRS has outlined key areas of improvement which the council will focus on in the near future.