



DAP1916 - Statement of Need

Tracking Code: **D22GH3**

CHANGE

1. Category of Airspace Change

Does your proposal concern Changes to Notified Airspace Design or Planned and Permanent Redistribution of Air Traffic? *

- ☒ Changes to Notified Airspace Design ☐ Planned and Permanent Redistribution of Air Traffic

2. Title of proposal

Please enter a title for this intended change, (max 80 characters): *

Drone Port Montrose: Temporarily Segregated Airspace for UAS Activities

☒ Have you previously submitted a Statement of Need ?

If known, please provide the ACP/PPR reference number (###-YYYY-NN)

DAP 1916-3619

Please provide your rationale for submitting a revised Statement of Need below:- *

Following a variety of conversations with the CAA I was advised by Craig King (Future Airspace Team) that I should update and resubmit the Statement of Need.

SPONSOR

3. Change Sponsor Details

Please select the appropriate category and complete. *

- ☒ A Company
☐ An Unincorporated Association or other body
☐ Individual (including sole traders and partnerships)

3a. A Company

Registered Company name (in full) *

Drone Technologies Limited

Registered Company Number

628859

Country of Company Registration

UK

Registered Office Address

Alma House, Ecclesgreig Road, St Cyrus, Aberdeenshire

Postcode

DD10 0BH

E-mail

Richard@drone-technologies.co.uk

Trading name (if applicable)

Drone Technologies Limited

Trading Address (primary site)

Alma House, Ecclesgreig Road, St Cyrus, Aberdeenshire

Country

UK

Postcode

DD10 0BH

Website address

www.drone-technologies.co.uk

Primary Point of Contact Name *

Richard Stark

☒ Requires Airspace Portal Access ?

Telephone *

07961 812 841

Mobile Number (for Airspace Portal) *

07961 812 841

Email *

Richard@drone-technologies.co.uk

Additional Contacts

You can add up to 4 additional contacts

STATEMENT OF NEED

4. Independent Aviation/Airspace Consultancy

☐ Is an Independent Aviation/Airspace Consultancy involved in this proposal?

5. Statement of Need

Please provide a brief 'Statement of Need' clearly explaining what issue or opportunity this proposal is seeking to address.

Further information can be found in CAP1616 *

Following conversation with the Future Airspace Team at the CAA this Statement of Need is an update to and replaces DAP 1916-3619 Drone Technologies Limited (DTL) and their joint venture partner, Angus Council, are working to establish a hub for the development of drone technology in Montrose, Angus. The hub will be centred around Scotland's first Drone Port facility, called Drone Port Montrose, with the intention of attracting companies, investment and jobs to the region.

Drone Port Montrose's aim is to support companies working towards ultimately achieving BVLOS, autonomous flight in unsegregated airspace – an aim shared with the CAA Innovation Hub. The initial focus of the hub will be on the development of drone technology for offshore applications to support the large wind farm developments to be installed off the Angus coast from 2021.

Other current trial scenarios include those required by vessels in the anchorages (1-5 km offshore) and oil and gas platforms (150 – 250km offshore). DTL is currently working with shipping agents, wind farm owners and operators and oil and gas companies to develop Use Cases and in supporting companies achieve BVLOS, autonomous flight. The intention is that drone-based deliveries and inspection will become an accepted and integral part of logistics and asset maintenance routine.

The drone port will be comprised of two elements: (1) an area of segregated airspace in which equipment and procedure trials can be conducted and (2) ground-based support facilities including take-off and landing areas, warehousing, workshops and office space. DTL believe there to be two similar sites in the UK at Cranfield University and the Wales Unmanned Aircraft Systems Environment (WUASE). Drone Port Montrose intends to be Scotland's equivalent, but the only one with a specific focus on offshore energy.

At present planning permission for a temporary ground-based facility at the new Zero Four business park development (<https://isla-developments.com/zerofour/>) has been lodged by Angus Council. This Statement of Need pertains to the airspace element of Drone Port Montrose. The temporary nature of the airspace being applied for at present will allow the business case and design to be tested prior to a future permanent application being made (if the business case can be proven). The scope of this future, permanent application, will be developed alongside Angus Council to potentially incorporate agricultural and rural application scenarios and the potential to build a UK Centre of Excellence for the Development of Drone Technology (similar to oil and gas' National Decommissioning Centre at Newburgh) as part of the Council's economic development plan (The Mercury Programme) using Angus' funding allocation from the Tay Cities' Deal (£300m of UK Government Funding).

DTL believes Montrose to be ideally placed, perhaps uniquely so, to exploit its aim of supporting companies achieve BVLOS, autonomous flight and bringing economic development to the region. This is because not only is Angus' airspace relatively quiet and outside existing major flight routes, but the county also boasts significant commercial opportunity for Drone Port Montrose's clients with the imminent installation of one of the UK's largest offshore wind farm? developments whose operations and maintenance base will be Montrose Port.

THIS STATEMENT OF NEED SEEKS A TEMPORARY CHANGE TO EXISTING CLASS G AIRSPACE.

WHILST DRONE PORT MONTROSE WILL BE GUIDED BY THE CAA, IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE AIRSPACE TYPE APPLIED FOR WITHIN THIS STATEMENT OF NEED IS A TEMPORARY AIRSPACE TRIAL AREA.

This application proposes a duration of 6 months for the temporarily segregated airspace commencing on 16 July 2020 based on the following requirements:

AIRAC Cycle AIRAC 08/2020
Effective Date: 16 July 2020 (<http://www.nats-uk.ead-it.com/aip/PubSched2020.pdf>)
Publication Date: 04 June 2020
Sponsor Change Requests Cut Off: 17 Apr 2020

DTL has been liaising with the Future Airspace Team at the CAA with regard to our plans and understand that whilst AIRAC 08/2020 may be a stretch?? target for us to meet, we believe this can be achieved with progress being made through clarifications during our planning development interview with the CAA. Approval in mid-July for testing to commence in Aug 2020 would be preferable from a business case point of view so long as no show-stoppers appear during the consultation, but we are also able to defer to CAA expertise and delay until AIRAC 09/2020 if required.

The intention is that during the period the temporarily segregated airspace arrangement is in place, a permanent application will be prepared, so long as the business case is supported. It is noted within CAP 1616 that in certain circumstances where a permanent application follows a temporary application, it may be sensible to maintain the Trial Airspace Area during this time – it is foreseen that this application would be one of these cases.

In addition to satisfying the validity of the business case, this iterative approach also aims to ensure that any future application to convert the temporary to permanent designation incorporates any lessons learned from the Drone Port's early clients.

Based on the progress of research and development in BVLOS, autonomous flight DTL envisage that within 3-5 years such flights will be possible within unsegregated airspace. At this point, the requirement for segregated airspace to conduct BVLOS drone technology trials may disappear. With the vision for Drone Port Montrose and the development funding available through Angus Council's Mercury Programme we believe this project can play its part in the BVLOS revolution and establish Angus' position at the vanguard of global drone technology development.

The temporarily segregated airspace proposed at Drone Port Montrose will extend eastwards from the drone port at the old Montrose Airfield on the north east of the town over rough ground and the beach to the sea (to the north of the golf course). The airspace will comprise of (1) an area of segregated airspace extending 12 nautical miles from this point (i.e. a semi-circle over the sea only) and divided into three sectors horizontally and (2) drone corridors extending from Drone Port Montrose to each of the three major windfarm developments: Seagreen, Inchcape and Neart na Gaoithe (NnG). It is proposed that each drone corridor will be 1km wide. It is also proposed that each piece of airspace will be divided vertically at 0-400ft and 400ft – 2000ft.

It is proposed that the complete area of segregated airspace will be activated via NOTAM on the AIRAC Effective Date and then, depending upon the client's needs, each of the three sectors and each drone corridor, as well as each of their vertical divisions, will then be activated individually using a process agreed with stakeholders (including Air Traffic Control) during the consultation.

Drone Port Montrose will not be involved in control of any aircraft but will ensure that Aberdeen and Dundee Air Traffic Control are fully informed of any trials being conducted, using a process to be defined during the consultation. Trials conducted by Drone Port Montrose's clients will be carried out in line with the facility's Operations Manual which is currently under development and will detail the requirements and constraints of users, both in the airspace and on the ground.

A more detailed version of the document defining the proposed? co-ordinates of the temporarily segregated airspace and a concept of operations is available by contacting Richard@drone-technologies.co.uk or calling Richard Stark on 07961 812 841.

6. Administrative Changes

☒ Does your proposal represent an administrative change to the Aeronautical Information Publication (Proposed Level 0 change)?

Please confirm which section of the Aeronautical Information Publication your proposed change relates to below. Please use this section to specify the exact details of the nomenclature and / or qualifying remarks you are proposing to change. If your proposal contains large amounts of information (e.g. multiple latitudes/longitudes) please supply the information on a separate email. *

It is proposed to create an area of segregated airspace off the coast of Montrose. A more detailed version of the Statement of Need including the locations and co-ordinates will be supplied separately by email as requested.

The onshore facilities, including the UAS take off and landing areas will be located at the old (now disused) Montrose airfield.

7. Instrument Flight Procedures

☐ Does your proposal have the potential to include a change to and/or new IFPs?

8. Five-Letter Name Codes (5LNC)

☐ Does this request solely concern the reservation of new Five-Letter Name Codes (5LNC) in advance of a future proposal?

9. Additional Information

Please use the box below to add any further information which the CAA should be aware of when considering this submission (for example dependencies on other airspace change proposals and/or funding deadlines):

Drone Port Montrose's airspace component will be developed by applying for an area of segregated airspace on a temporary basis in order to test the business case prior to a permanent application being submitted. The temporary arrangement has been funded using Angus Council funds but the permanent application (along with potentially significant amounts of ground based facilities £1m+) will use funds from the Tay Cities Deal whose business case is being confirmed over the next six months. It is therefore important that Drone Port Montrose can be operating in 2020, ideally within the summer months, to allow the business case to be tested. Corona virus allowing, this is why the stretch target of achieving AIRAC cycle 08/2020 has been applied for.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Submission

Your form has been successfully submitted. Please keep a copy of this acknowledgement for your records.

Date and Time: **28 Mar 2020 7:56:45 AM**

Application
Submission
Number: **DAP1916V2-51**

Please note that the Airspace Regulation team will contact you to acknowledge receipt of your Statement of Need and to confirm the unique ACP reference number (ACP-YYYY-NNN) allocated to this submission. Following receipt of your unique ACP reference number, you will be required to create an associated airspace change proposal on the [CAA's Airspace Change Portal](#). Please refer to CAP 1706: CAA Airspace Change Portal – Sponsor Training Manual provides for further information/guidance on how to use the Airspace Change Portal.

Once your submission has been assigned, arrangements will be made for you to attend an Assessment Meeting. One of the key outputs from this meeting will be an indicative timeline for the proposed airspace change. To enable the CAA to consider your proposed timescales, you will be expected to present dates for the following milestones at the Assessment Meeting:

- DEFINE Gateway
- DEVELOP & ASSESS Gateway
- CONSULT Gateway
- Formal Airspace Change Proposal Submission
- Target AIRAC

The CAA holds Gateway Assessment Meetings on a monthly basis and the annual schedule is published on the [CAA website](#).

Finally, you should also note that from September 2018 any amendments submitted by a Data Originator or ANSP for onward promulgation in the UK IAIP will be subject to the Aeronautical Data Quality Requirements. See [Commission Regulation \(EU\) No 73/2010](#) (updated by 1029/2014) and [CAP 1054: Aeronautical Information Management](#) guidance material for further information. These requirements will be discussed in greater detail during the course of your initial meeting with the CAA.

When you have completed this form, click this button to submit the form for processing. Do not click this button more than once. You will then be provided with further instructions.