

Dear Sir or Madam,

As requested in your correspondence below regarding stakeholder engagement for ACP-2020-042 and ACP-2021-007, the response from Borders Gliding Club, Milfield, is as follows:

Engagement Part 1: *A request for feedback and any impact to your operations on the recent activations of TDA597. TDA597 was activated between 1000 and 1300 on 8 / 10 / 12 / 15 / 17 / 19 Mar 21 to enable Exercise COBRA WARRIOR 21-1.2 Here are the specific questions for ACP-2020-042 Stage 2 feedback:*

- *Safety – did the airspace itself cause any safety issues or raise any safety concerns?*

No

- *Operational Impacts - What effect did the activation of the airspace have on your operation?*

Gliding operations from Milfield were limited to FL60 and below during the hours when TDA597 was activated. This was only an issue on 12 and 19 Mar 21 as the Gliding Club was not operating on the other dates.

- *Airspace Management – how well did the notification, activation and management of the airspace work?*

Excellent communication both prior and during the activation of TDA 597.

- *Air Traffic Management – Did the handling of military Ex traffic and/or civil traffic in and around TDA 597 cause any issues?*

Some military traffic (mainly pairs of Hawks) was observed passing within close proximity to Milfield but there was no significant risk. (This appeared to be when the aircraft were transiting to and from Leeming to their play areas).

- *Environment and Noise – Did the activation of TDA 597 cause any environmental or noise concerns?*

No

- *Any other observations about TDA 597 or ACP-2020-042 in general?*

No

Engagement Part 2: *ACP-2021-007 TDA 597 Future Activations The MoD is proposing to activate the same airspace volume (TDA597) for 2 future exercise periods to cover the gap between now and ACP-2020-026 completing. The airspace meets most of the MoD requirements and we believe it minimises impact to other airspace users. These periods are: • 6-24 Sep 21 • 7-25 Mar 22 • Within each of these activation periods, the airspace will be in use for up to x10 3- hour periods (exact timings TBC). The notification, activation and management of TDA597 will be the same as it has been for Stage 2 of ACP-2020-042 which has just completed. Here are the specific questions for ACP-2021-007 future activations of TDA597:*

- *Safety – Do you think that activation of the airspace will cause any safety issues or raise any safety concerns?*

No

- *Operational Impacts – Will the activation of the airspace have any operational impact on your operations?*

Yes - Gliding operations from Milfield will be limited to FL60 and below during the hours when TDA597 was activated. This would have been a significant problem had we had not been informed well in advance of the dates that TDA597 will be activated as they coincide with the dates when expeditions and intensive flying weeks are usually planned. Dates have now been deconflicted, but there will still be some disruption on Fridays and at weekends.

- *Airspace Management – do you have any concerns about how the airspace will be managed?*

No

- *Air Traffic Management – Do you have any concerns about how either civil or military traffic will be routed in or around TDA 597?*

No, but military traffic should avoid Milfield airfield by a minimum of 5 nms when the airfield is active.

- *Environment and Noise – Do you expect any noise or environmental impact caused by civil aircraft as a direct result of TDA597 activation?*

No

- *Do you have any other observations about TDA 597 or ACP-2021-007 in general?*

No but, as stated previously, mutual co-operation and co-ordination is essential to avoid future disruption and confliction.

Kind regards,

Military Liaison and Airspace Officer
Borders Gliding Club
Milfield