

Kemble ACP – Record of Telephone Conversation Minute Kemble Airport [REDACTED] and RAF Brize Norton Senior Air Traffic Control Officer (SATCO)

Wednesday 23 Jan 2019 – 14.30hrs

Present [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and SATCO RAF Brize Norton

One of the stakeholder engagement responses came from the CAA's NATMAC member at the MOD. (see Stage 2_Step 2a-Kemble Engagement Responses Table) Part of it stated:

“Radar services would continue to be offered by RAF Brize Norton based on their irreducible capacity. Therefore, if a service was unavailable, it would be important that altitudes should be capped at 3500’ to remain outside of the RAF Brize Norton zone as proposed in ACP-2017-16.

Due to the potential increase in traffic at RAF Fairford, the MOD would object to Option 1 as it would fly directly through, or just above the ATZ. Option 2 or 3 would be acceptable, although, for RAF Fairford, Option 2 is preferred.”

In order to test understanding of these comments, a telephone call was arranged with SATCO RAF Brize Norton. In it, CA referred to the above response from MOD and explained how Options 1 & 2 created areas for Kemble inbound traffic would be positioned to land when runway 26 is in use.

Discussions centred on Option 1 and its linear nature with the consequent potential to cause friction during certain times when Brize Radar was busy. In acknowledging Kemble's desire to see a positive outcome to the Brize Norton ACP, the difficulties over how any revised areas of airspace between Brize Norton and Kemble might look were debated.

The comments from the MoD, on clarification with RAF Brize Norton's SATCO, refer to constraints imposed should RAF Brize Norton's planned increase of their airspace, under their ACP. SATCO also reiterated that at a tactical level, the LOA between Brize and Kemble remains extant, Brize would continue to provide a radar service and, based on historical trends, was very unlikely that it would not be able to provide this service, particularly since positioning Kemble's inbounds is also in the interest of protecting Brize Norton's movements.