

**MINUTES OF ACP-2022-002: RAFAT (RAF SYERSTON) TEMPORARY DANGER AREA (TDA) NEWARK & SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL (NSDC) VIA MS TEAMS ON 12 JULY 2022**

12 July 2022

Distribution List:  
All attendees

<b>Present</b>	<b>Appointment</b>	<b>Representing</b>
	Chair/TDA Support	MOD
	TDA Lead	MOD
	RAFLO (East Midlands)	MOD
	RAF Waddington MCO	MOD
	RAFAT PRM	MOD
	Dover Beck Ward Representative	NSDC
	Trent Ward Representative	NSDC
	Public Protection Manager	NSDC

Meeting Opening Statement

Following a meeting with Newark and Sherwood DC Representatives on 8 June 2022, one of the suggested follow up actions was that a meeting would be organised whereby the TDA Leads could engage with officers and councillors of those wards affected by the airspace proposal at RAF Syerston. The purpose of this meeting was to pass a consistent narrative of the proposal across to those individuals who could then understand its intent and then dispatch this across to their members and communities.

	<b>ACTION</b>
<p><b>Item 1 – Introduction</b></p> <p>All attendees were introduced.</p>	
<p><b>Item 2 – Context</b></p> <p>The <b>Chair/TDA Support</b> introduced the Statement of Need as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Royal Air Force Aerobatic Team (RAFAT) – The Red Arrows, are currently based at RAF Scampton and utilise airspace in the overhead known as EG R313.</li> <li>• The MOD is selling RAF Scampton which it hopes to complete in early 2023 and the Team will relocate to their new home at RAF Waddington in later 2022.</li> <li>• Future availability of EG R313 to the Red Arrows for its training over RAF Scampton will be contingent on the sale and the nature of the development delivered at the base.</li> </ul>	

- To cater for the eventuality that full use of EG R313 will no longer be available to the Team, the MOD is exploring alternative airspace in Lincolnshire to enable the Red Arrows to continue to train.
- RAF Syerston has been identified as potentially suitable for the Synchro Pair. To determine whether RAF Syerston is a viable option for establishment of new permanent airspace, a temporary airspace structure is required to test the site and assess what the impact would be on local aviation and ground stakeholders.
- The MOD wishes to see the Red Arrows continue as one of the finest display teams in the world and without suitable contingency planning, their future existence could be under threat.

The **Chair/TDA Support** explained the importance of RAF Syerston and its available runway feature as follows:

- Focus on the Synchro Pair because it has a runway and is located close to RAF Waddington.
  - The Synchro Pair use the runway to assess miss distance during head-on pass training, each using a different runway edge.
- RAF Waddington is currently assessed as unsuitable for Synchro Pair training making RAF Syerston the only contingency option.
- Should EG R313 become unavailable for RAFAT operations, and no other local sites are considered suitable, it is highly likely that the entire Red Arrows display will have to fundamentally change and would almost certainly lead to the removal of the Synchro Pair from the display routine.

The **Chair/TDA Support** highlighted that RAF Syerston would be used for Synchro Pair training sorties over the period 9 January 2023 until 7 April 2023. The individual training slot times would be as follows:

- Slot 1: 0830-0915 (45 mins)
- Slot 2: 1200-1245 (45 mins)
- Slot 3: 1450-1530 (40 mins)

Future use of RAF Syerston will be contingent on analysis of its use during this time and the response from RAFAT, General Aviation (GA) and the local population. Any future, permanent establishment of RAF Syerston for RAFAT use will be subject to further engagement with the CAA and will only be considered should EG R313 be removed.

### **Item 3 - Potential Impact**

The **Chair/TDA Support** explained that there would likely be an impact on local communities, particularly those within the 5nm TDA radius. It was made clear that it was hoped that any disruption would be minimal, however it was expected there would be an increased immediate noise footprint during the training slots. This would include GA re-routing around the Airspace. It was however explained that it was very unlikely that RAFAT would use all the slots over the 90-day period, with a focus

on maximizing use of the slots at the start of the TDA period (first 6 to 8 weeks). The **Chair/TDA Support** also highlighted that slot use could be reduced depending on feedback from RAFAT, the local population and other airspace users and therefore it was important that there was a strategy in place to be able to listen to communities and manage any feedback or complaints.

The **Chair/TDA Support** asked if there were any immediate questions at this stage.

██████████ asked if the **ProjOs** were in dialogue with officers at Rushcliffe Borough Council who cover the villages to the South of RAF Syerston within the TDA. The **Chair/TDA Support** confirmed that initial engagement had been made with Rushcliffe Borough Council however no response had been received as yet. The TDA Project Officers would continue to follow this up.

██████████ commented that there were various light aircraft and microlight centres within the TDA. The **TDA Lead** explained that engagement had already taken place with local sites and a visit had been scheduled to take place at Rectory Farm airfield with local aviation stakeholders.

At this stage the **TDA Lead** commented that although all matters regarding the airspace proposal were published on the CAA portal, it had been decided that the public will not be directly engaged with until the CAA had made its approval decision on the proposal which is currently expected on 4 November 2022.

██████████ agreed that this was a sensible tactic and that due to the potential uncertainty of approval of the TDA this engagement can be conducted later.

██████████ enquired as to whether RAFAT aircraft intended to take off and land at RAF Syerston and what the associated impacts would be. The **Chair/TDA Support** explained that there would be no take off or landings at RAF Syerston by RAFAT.

██████████ enquired further on what height the aircraft would be operating at and any likely immediate disturbance that this could cause.

The **ProjO** highlighted that the vast majority of activity would be North and East of the runway at RAF Syerston, starting around 2000' and descending down to 100' toward the runway. When positioning north of Syerston there will be some noise but assessed as nothing that should considerably startle people. It was noted that there is a planned Air Cadets families day display at RAF Syerston on 24 Aug. This could be an ideal opportunity for local councillors to get a feel for the likely noise with the caveat that this is a full display and not just the Synchro Pair.

██████████ highlighted that he would be happy to act as local liaison and expressed attendance at this event would be of interest to him.

██████████ enquired if the **ProjOs** were aware of local care homes, particularly Hazleford Care Home to the northwest of RAF

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<p>Syerston, and that they should ensure that the care home management are aware of the proposed activity should CAA approval be granted.</p> <p>The <b>ProjO</b> confirmed that this is something that would be taken up between the <b>ProjOs</b> and the <b>RAF Waddington Media and Communications Officer (MCO)</b> once the approval decision had been made, in addition to liaison with other local businesses such as equestrian facilities (notably Southwell Racecourse) and Eden Hall Spa.</p>	
<p><b>Item 5 – RAF PR &amp; Media Engagement</b></p> <p>The <b>Chair/TDA Support</b> invited the <b>RAF Waddington MCO</b> and <b>RAFAT Public Relations Manager (PRM)</b> to discuss their initial strategy for engagement with communities and their representatives.</p> <p>The <b>RAF Waddington MCO</b> explained that despite RAFAT having their own PRM, RAFAT activity would fall within the responsibility of RAF Waddington. Mechanisms would be made available on how feedback can be made. The MCO office would deal with any enquiries and flying complaints as first port of call. The <b>RAF Waddington MCO</b> stated that contact details would be emailed to all attendees post the meeting. Any issues would be addressed by the RAF Waddington MCO team who would aim to send out appropriate responses or forward to the correct team. Longer term, once the CAA had decided on the status of the proposal, a campaign would be undertaken to inform the public of the proposed activity including use of social media and direct engagement with local stakeholders to capture all concerns and inputs.</p> <p>The <b>RAFAT PRM</b> echoed these comments and that RAFAT would be ready and available come the November CAA decision to answer any questions as and when they occur.</p> <p>In support of these comments, the <b>ProjO</b> explained that the views of the local community would always be taken very seriously and at any time that a threshold in public response or complaints was exceeded, a decision could be made on whether RAFAT activity at RAF Syerston should continue or be limited.</p> <p>██████████ pointed out the proximity of Southwell Racecourse to RAF Syerston and highlighted that there would be a need to coordinate activity during fixtures at the racecourse.</p> <p>The <b>ProjO</b> explained that he was in the process of engaging with Southwell Racecourse Management regarding such matters.</p>	<p><b>RAF Waddington MCO</b></p>
<p><b>Item 6 – Next steps</b></p> <p>In conclusion, the <b>Chair/TDA Support</b> asked if there were any other matters that would like to be discussed.</p>	

<p>██████████ thanked the team and expressed that he was reassured at this stage and asked the ProjOs to continue the good communication.</p> <p>██████████ concurred and was pleased that they had the meeting in preparation for future informing of the local community.</p> <p>██████████ proposed that ██████████ at NSDC would identify any local representatives who would wish to attend on the display at RAF Syerston on 24 August and compile a list. He also recommended the <b>ProjOs</b> identify a suitable date to come back together and update the stakeholders on the status of the process and any feedback following on from the 24 August display.</p> <p><b>The ProjO</b> commented that he would confirm with RAF OC Displays and update the attendees.</p>	<p><b>NSDC</b></p> <p><b>MOD</b></p>
<p><b>Item 7 – Any other business</b></p> <p>The <b>Chair/TDA Support</b> thanked everybody for attending and confirmed that everything had been covered. Minutes covering the detail of the meeting would be written and uploaded onto the CAA ACP-2022-002 portal.</p>	<p><b>MOD</b></p>

**ACTIONS ARISING FROM ACP-2022-002: RAFAT (RAF SYERSTON) TEMPORARY  
DANGER AREA (TDA) NEWARK & SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL VIA MS TEAMS  
ON 12 JULY 2022**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Follow up engagement	TDA Lead/Support	Follow up contact with Rushcliffe Borough Council	19 Jul 2022
RAF Waddington MCO Contact Details	RAF Waddington MCO	Distribute central contact details for all RAF Waddington MCO matters	26 Jul 2022
RAF Syerston Display Attendees	TDA Lead/Support	Confirm approval for local representatives to attend RAFAT display at RAF Syerston on 24 Aug 2022	26 Jul 2022
Meeting Minutes	TDA Lead/Support	Write draft minutes within two weeks of meeting.	26 July 2022
RAF Syerston Display Attendees	[REDACTED], NSDC	Identify any local representatives who would wish to attend RAFAT the display at RAF Syerston on 24 August and forward a list to ProjO's.	2 Aug 2022

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