



ACP-2022-031
Northumbria NHS
Aerial Delivery Network

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1. Introduction – CAA to open

Individual Introductions (30 secs)

Apian - Who are we?

- A healthcare logistics start-up whose mission is to deliver faster, smarter and greener healthcare.
- Working in partnership with Northumbria Healthcare NHS Trust Foundation.

What are we wanting to do?

Use drones to deliver chemotherapy and patient blood samples to demonstrate the environmental, economic and health impact.

What have we done so far?

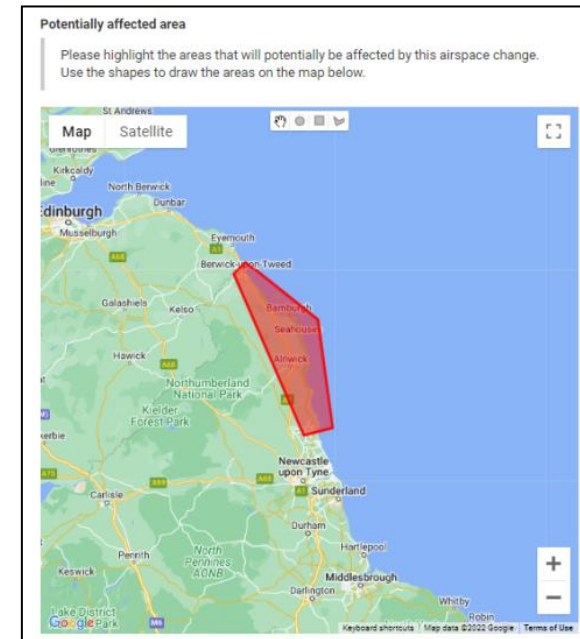
- Developed use case with Northumbria NHS
- Engaged with aviation stakeholders
 - CAA Innovation team
 - Newcastle ATC
 - DAATM
 - Regional Airspace Users Working group
 - And more....

2. Statement of Need (discussion & review)

The change sponsor, in conjunction with the Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and utilising the government funded Small Business Research Initiative (SBRI), is looking to conduct feasibility trials using uncrewed air vehicles (UAVs) between hospitals in Northumbria for the distribution of medical payloads such as chemotherapy drugs and urgent medical supplies and samples.

The change sponsor is proposing an evaluation of the potential advantages of transporting such time sensitive small and medium-weight healthcare items by use of UAS Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) delivery operations during the *autumn of 2022**.

In order to do this in the area selected for this activity, current regulation requires the activity to be contained within segregated airspace.



Altitudes affected:
Sea level to 1400ft amsl

* first quarter of 2023

2. Statement of Need - Chemotherapy + blood samples

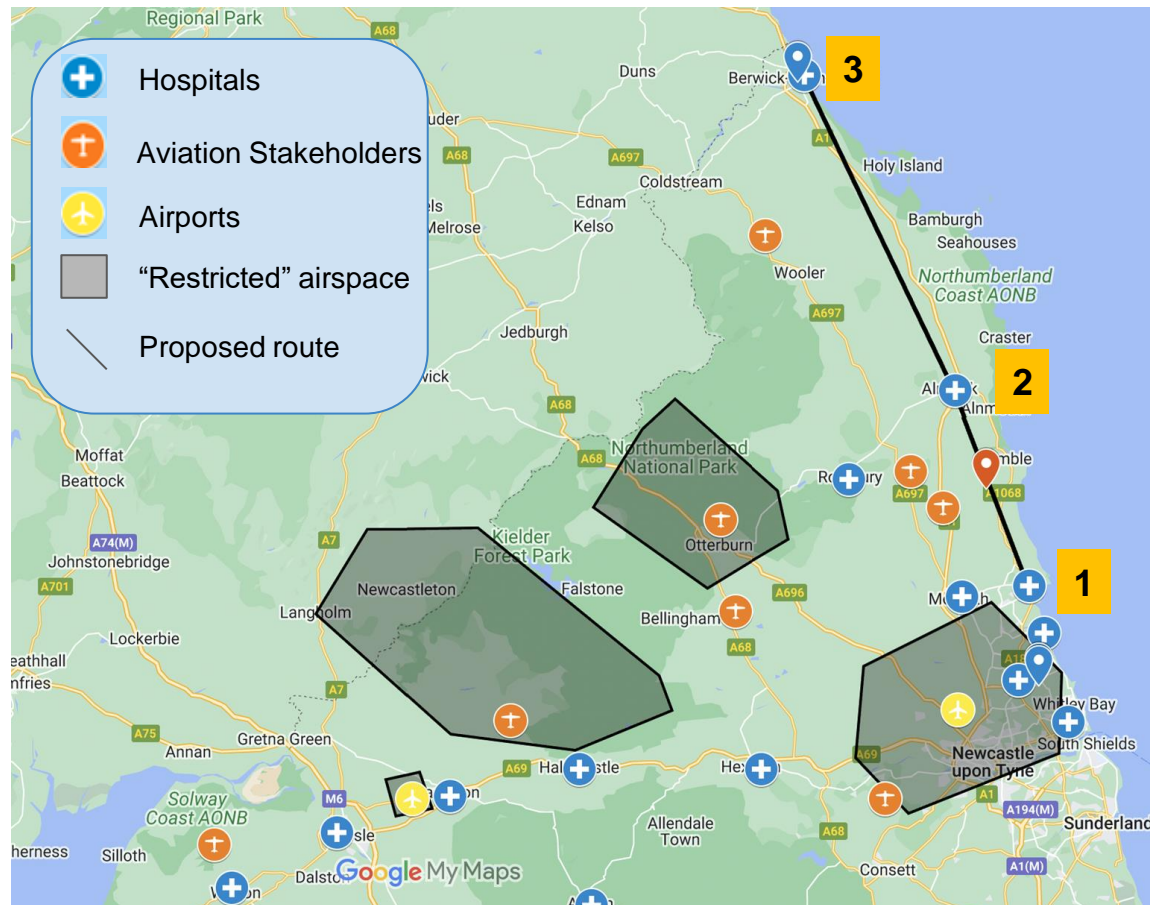
Locations

1. Wansbeck General Hospital, Ashington
2. Alnwick Infirmary (Wed + Fri)
3. Berwick Infirmary (Wed + Thurs)

Up to 20 patients per day

Outcomes to be measured

- Faster delivery
- Greener delivery
- Access to care



3. Issues or opportunities arising from proposed change

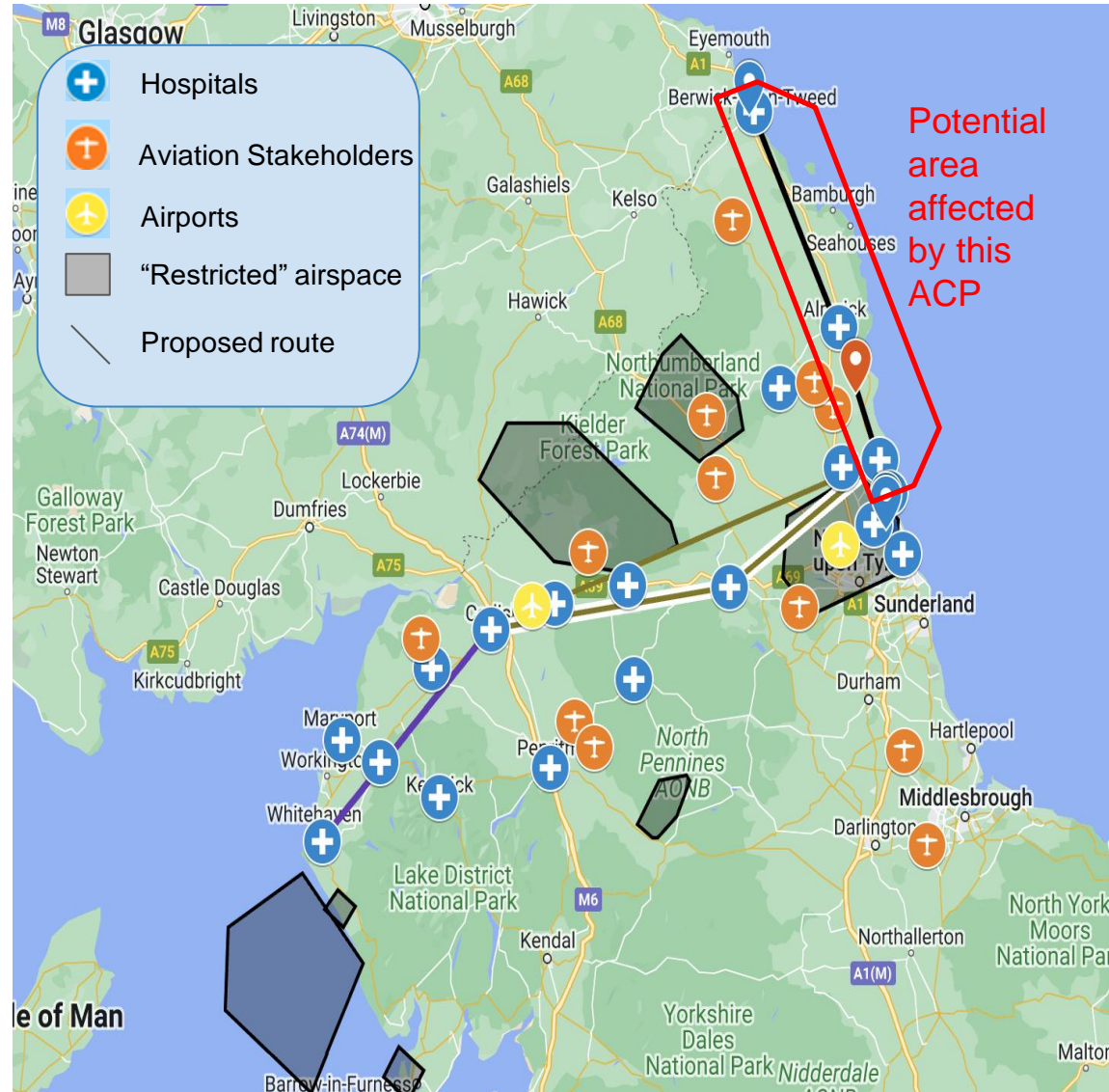
Issues:

- **Other ACP in region** Offshore Renewable Energy [ACP-2021-089](#) (paused), any others?
- **Electric Conspicuity** Use of SSR and ADS-B (SSR for Newcastle Airport) EC CAP 1391.
- **[CAA Buffer Policy](#)** we wish to have a dispensation on the 3nm from Controlled Airspace requirement. Discussions with Newcastle ATC.
- **OA and ACP alignment** Need to ensure alignment of OA request, ensuring it can be issued alongside the TDA process.
- **Multiple drone operators** Would like to use 2 drone operators due to support the NHS requirements (payload). Would ensure deconfliction plan agreed.
- **Airspace** Should we consider whether a TMZ is more appropriate than a TDA.

4. Options to exploit/address issues & opportunities identified

Opportunities

- Plan for a wider network linking additional sites in the Northumbria and North Cumbria Areas.
- Gain operating experience and airspace use to build knowledge and procedures for later overland routes.
- Roadmap towards operating in central Newcastle (North Tyneside and NSEC) which are under Newcastle Airport's CTR.
- CAA Innovation engagement.



5. Process requirements - CAA

i. TDA Policy Statement

- CAA identification of CAP 1616 requirements and stages required

ii. Stakeholder Engagement

- Details from Apian on parties already identified.
- Seeking confirmation of timescales required.
- Requirements for public awareness of overflight.

iii. Safety Assessment

- Drone Service Provider will make application for an OA in the Specific Category

6. Provisional Timescales

Estimates:

- Submission 21 Oct 22
- DECISION 18 Nov 22
- Submission for AIC 25 Nov 22
- AIC Publication Date 12 Jan 23
- Implementation/Start Ops Date 16 Jan 23

Stakeholder engagement start date 6 weeks	Engagement feedback addressed / completed / collated	CAA review and AIC update (5 weeks)	Sponsor submission cutoff	Publication date
Wed 31 Aug 22	Fri 14 Oct 22	Fri 21 Oct 22	Fri 25 Nov 22	Thu 12 Jan 23

7. Next Steps

Draft copy of the minutes will be provided by end of this week

Stakeholder engagement intend to commence 31 Aug 22

8. AOB

