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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Our

reference: RAFAT/ACP/2

Date: 15 March 2019

Dear Council Representative,

I am writing to highlight the initiation of a Ministry of Defence (MOD) Airspace Change Proposal that might be of interest. As potential key stakeholders, early and comprehensive engagement is sought regarding the design principles for the proposed airspace, within the Civil Aviation Authority CAP 1616 process¹. For reference, the Statement of Need is available on the CAA Airspace Change Portal under reference: ID: ACP-2018-72 and the initial assessment meeting with the CAA was held on 6 Feb 19².

Background. The RAF Red Arrows currently operate from RAF Scampton and conduct flying display training in EG R313 (centred on RAF Scampton). Following the MOD announcement in Jul 18 to close RAF Scampton by 2022, a new base location and training airspace is required for the team. A study is being conducted to determine the future base; options include RAF Leeming, RAF Waddington and RAF Wittering. This Airspace Change Proposal presents an opportunity to deregulate the current training airspace (EGR313) and establish new airspace, in suitable proximity to the future base location of the Red Arrows. Amongst other criteria, the required dimensions of the new airspace need to meet the training and safety requirements of the Red Arrows.

Your Role. The generation of options for the new airspace first requires airspace design principles to be developed. CAP 1616 Stage 1B requires engagement with stakeholders regarding design principles development. Engagement with local community is also of great importance to the MOD. Given that your authority area could provide airspace that lies within suitable proximity of a base location option, the authority's contribution to the draft design principles (at Enclosure) is sought. Responses are requested by 05 Apr 19. I would be grateful if you could advise if you require further engagement and if so, your preferred point of contact.

Note. It is intended to hold an open house event close to the base option locations to allow face to face discussions for interested parties. Please also confirm if you would like to be informed, when the date, time and location have been set.

Yours faithfully,

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Enclosure: 20190313-RAFAT_ACP_Engagement-Draft_Design_Principles

¹ <https://publicapps.caa.co.uk/modalapplication.aspx?appid=11&mode=detail&id=8127>

² <https://airspacechange.caa.co.uk/PublicProposalArea?pID=105>