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Ministry
of Defence

ACP-2023-003

TDA for Protector T&E Flying *and* RAFAT Flying Display
Practices at RAF Waddington

Temporary Airspace Change Proposal Assessment Meeting
14th June 2023

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ACP Stage 1 DEFINE - Assessment Meeting

- | | |
|---|---------|
| 1. Introduction | CAA |
| 2. Statement of Need (discussion & review) | All |
| 3. Issues or opportunities arising from proposed change | Sponsor |
| 4. Process requirements: | Sponsor |
| i. TDA Policy Statement | CAA |
| ii. Stakeholder engagement | |
| iii. Safety Assessment | |
| 5. Provisional Timescales | All |
| 6. Next steps | All |
| 7. AOB | All |

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1. Introduction



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2. Statement of Need

Current :

The MOD is progressing ACP-2019-18 which supports the integration of a large Remotely Piloted Air System (RPAS) into UK airspace when it is brought into service at RAF Waddington in the early 2020s. In addition it aims to provide a volume of airspace over RAF Waddington within which the RAF Aerobatic Team (RAFAT) can safely conduct flying display training. ***To ensure that any delay to the ACP timeline does not impact airspace availability, the MOD requires a means to enable essential RPAS and RAFAT activity to take place during the winter of 2023/2024.***



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2. Statement of Need

Draft proposed amendment following recent development:

The MOD is progressing ACP-2019-18 which supports the integration of a large Remotely Piloted Air System (RPAS) into UK airspace when it is brought into service at RAF Waddington in the early 2020s. In addition it aims to provide a volume of airspace over RAF Waddington within which the RAF Aerobatic Team (RAFAT) can safely conduct flying display training. ***A pressing need has emerged to prove that the Protector system can be operated safely from early November 2023, before ACP-2019-18 can deliver the permanent airspace change. A temporary airspace change is thought to offer the best way to manage this short-term requirement. This temporary change does not involve any additional requirements for RAFAT, which has requested a RA(T) from late Oct 2023.***

Altitudes affected: Surface to below FL105

Proposed submission date: 16 Aug 2023

Change to ACP Title?



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3. Issues or opportunities arising from Proposed Change

Issues

- Nominally 3 flights from 9 Nov 2023;
- Managed within the limits of imposed Airspace Control Measures and Aircraft Limitations as described in a military permit to fly (MPTF);
- Requirement is to demonstrate the ATLC patterns at RAF Waddington are safe and suitable for in-service operations prior to commencement of full T&E flying schedule post 30 Nov 2023;
- Deconfliction of use of airspace to be managed by MOD between Protector and RAFAT activities.

Opportunities

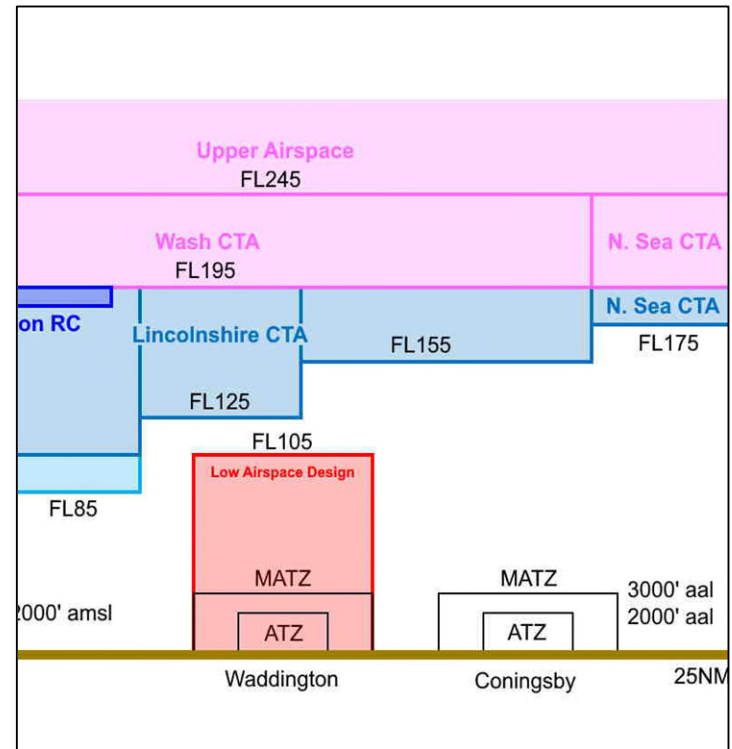
- Proposed engagement duration of 3 weeks commencing no later than 7 Jul 2023 (through to no later than 28 Jul 2023).
 - Already carried out 12-week consultation for ACP-2019-18;
 - Minimised volume of airspace required (cylinder) to achieve objective;
 - Minimal impact on stakeholders (especially since RAFAT will already be using cylinder)



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Airspace Design Option 1 LOW
from ACP-2019-18



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5. Process requirements

- TDA Policy Statement
- Stakeholder engagement
- Safety Assessment

CAA



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6. Provisional process timescales under CAP 1616

Based on AIC/SUP publication schedule:

Final Submission – 18 Aug 2023

DECIDE – **8 Sep 2023**

AIC Submission – 8 Sep 2023

AIC Publication – 19 Oct 2023

Implementation – 9 Nov 2023



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7. Next Steps

Discussion



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8. AOB

Discussion

