



# DAP1916 - Statement of Need

Tracking Code: CLTHBW7

## BEFORE YOU BEGIN

---

Please ensure the contents of CAP 1616 Appendix A are referred to prior to completing this form. \*

## TYPE OF CHANGE

---

### 1. Category of Airspace Change

Does your proposal concern Changes to Notified Airspace Design or Planned and Permanent Redistribution of Air Traffic? \*

Changes to Notified Airspace Design  Planned and Permanent Redistribution of Air Traffic

Have you previously submitted a Statement of Need?

Please enter a title for this intended change, (max 80 characters - the title should be succinct and include a location (where appropriate)): \*

London Healthcare Bridge

### 2. Title of proposal

Which of the following categories is the proposal being progressed under? \*

Permanent  Temporary  Trial

## SPONSOR

---

### 3. Change Sponsor Details

Please select the appropriate category and complete. \*

- A Company  
 An Unincorporated Association or other body  
 Individual (including sole traders and partnerships)

#### 3a. A Company

Registered Company name (in full) \*

Apian Ltd

Registered Company Number

12578044

Trading Address (primary site)

---

Trading name (if applicable)

E-mail

Postcode

Registered Office Address

Country of Company Registration

Country

Postcode

Email \*

Confirm Email \*

Do you require access to the CAA's Airspace Change Portal?

Telephone \*

Primary Point of Contact Name \*

Website address

**Additional Contacts**

You can add up to 4 additional contacts (this is useful to ensure that periods of absence are covered)

**+** Add Contact

**STATEMENT OF NEED**

---

## Independent Aviation/Airspace Consultancy

Is an Independent Aviation/Airspace Consultancy involved in this proposal?

### Statement of Need

Please complete the following four sections.

What is the objective of the proposed change? \*

The airspace change sponsor, Apian, in conjunction with Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust (GSTT) is looking to conduct feasibility flights using Uncrewed Aircraft Systems (UAS) for the distribution of high-priority pathology samples and medicines between two NHS' hospitals. This use of UAS has the potential to speed up delivery times thereby enhancing patient care, saving costs, and promoting sustainability.

The airspace change sponsor is proposing that the transport of these time-sensitive small and medium-weight healthcare items is conducted by UAS flying Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS). In order to do this in the area selected for this activity, current regulation requires the activity to be contained within segregated airspace.

Please provide a summary of the issue or opportunity this proposal is seeking to address including any safety, operational, technical, environmental or economic factors. \*

Apian and partners are seeking to trial a daytime on-demand drone delivery service for high-priority pathology samples between the laboratories at Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust (GSTT). This service has the potential to greatly increase access and efficiency to best-in-class diagnostic platforms, thereby enhancing patient care, saving costs, and promoting sustainability. Moreover, this pilot project will serve as a scalable model for the wider adoption of drones within the Trust and throughout the NHS.

Please provide a description of the current airspace design (i.e. the airspace structure and flight procedures) relevant to this proposal. \*

The intended UAS BVLOS delivery flights will follow a predetermined route between Guy's Hospital and St. Thomas' Hospital in the inner-city London boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark. Operations will be conducted at or below 400ft AGL.

The airspace sponsor is requesting a Temporary Reserved Area to safely segregate the airspace to conduct the BVLOS operations, however the intention is to gain sufficient evidence through this trial to support a future safety case that would enable the removal of the requirement for these flights to operate in such airspace structures.

Please provide a description of the current prevailing air traffic situation (i.e. frequency and number of movements) and an indication of estimated forecast growth (where applicable). \*

The anticipated operational flight area is in airspace below routine crewed operations.

Initial engagement with key stakeholders, including 'blue light' operators, such as Helicopter Emergency Medical Services (HEMS), National Police Air Service (NPAS), Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA), London Metropolitan Police, as well as the Military, has started. The feedback received has been very positive, showing their support for our activities and their willingness to collaborate with us in defining, where needed, coordination and deconfliction procedures to ensure safe integration of our intended UAS operations.

### Five-Letter Name Codes (5LNC)

Does this request solely concern the reservation of new Five-Letter Name Codes (5LNC) in advance of a future proposal?

### Secretary of State for Transport's priorities

Is the proposal being progressed under any of the priorities set by the Secretary of State for Transport or any other CAA priority such as safety or national security?

### Airspace Modernisation Strategy \*

- Is the proposal supporting the delivery of the Airspace Modernisation Strategy? If not, please use the text box below to explain how the proposal is not inconsistent with the Airspace Modernisation Strategy

**Additional Information**

Please use the box below to add any further information which the CAA should be aware of when considering this submission (for example dependencies on other airspace change proposals, proposed operating date(s) and/or funding deadlines)

This project has been selected under CAP2540 TRA Sandbox as one of the projects to be conducted through the Sandbox.

**SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS**

---

**Submission**

Your form has been successfully submitted. Please keep a copy of this acknowledgement for your records.

Date and Time:

31 Jul 2023 8:27:16 PM

Application Submission Number:

DAP1916V2-847

Please note that the Airspace Regulation team will contact you to acknowledge receipt of your Statement of Need and to confirm the unique ACP reference number (ACP-YYYY-NNN) allocated to this submission. Following receipt of your unique ACP reference number, you will be required to create an associated airspace change proposal on the **CAA's Airspace Change Portal** (<https://airspacechange.caa.co.uk/>). Please refer to CAP 2385 Airspace Change Portal Important Information Guide.

Given the high number of new airspace change proposals (ACP), together with those proposals which are already in the system, it is possible that the proposal may not be assigned to a Technical Regulator/Account Manager immediately following submission of the Statement of Need. New proposals are allocated on a first come first served basis, unless the proposal is directly related to safety or national security matters, or as directed by the Secretary of State for Transport's priorities.

Once your submission has been assigned to an Account Manager/Case Officer, arrangements will be made for you to attend an Assessment Meeting. One of the key outputs from this meeting will be an indicative timeline for the proposed PPR. For Permanent changes, to enable the CAA to consider your proposed timescales, you will be expected to present dates for the following milestones at the Assessment Meeting:

- DEFINE Gateway
- DEVELOP & ASSESS Gateway
- CONSULT Gateway
- Formal Airspace Change Proposal Submission
- DECIDE Gateway
- Target AIRAC

The CAA holds Gateway Assessment Meetings on a monthly basis and the annual schedule is published on the **CAA's airspace change portal** (<https://airspacechange.caa.co.uk/about-airspace-change/>).

Finally, you should also note that from September 2018 any amendments submitted by a Data Originator or ANSP for onward promulgation in the UK IAIP will be subject to the Aeronautical Data Quality Requirements. See Regulation (EU) No. 73/2010 as retained (and amended in UK domestic law) under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 and **CAP 1054: Aeronautical Information Management** (<https://publicapps.caa.co.uk/modalapplication.aspx?appid=11&mode=detail&id=6808>) guidance material for further information. These requirements will be discussed in greater details during the course of your initial meeting with the CAA.

When you have completed this form, click this button to submit the form for processing. Do not click this button more than once. You will then be provided with further instructions.