



ACP-2021-012 SPACEPORT-1

Stage 3 'Consult' Gateway Outcome – 26th January 2024

[STATEMENT]

As part of Stage 3 'Consult' of the CAP 1616 airspace change process, the UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has completed a 'Consult' Gateway Assessment of Spaceport-1's airspace change proposal (ACP).

In order for the CAA to sign-off the Stage 3 'Consult' Gateway, the following criteria must have been met:

1. the change sponsor must have produced a consultation strategy
2. the change sponsor must have produced appropriate and effective consultation documents and supporting materials
3. the change sponsor must have produced a Full options appraisal (phase II)
4. the CAA must have published a statement approving the consultation documents and supporting material as satisfactory against the requirements in Appendix C
5. the CAA must have completed and published an assessment that the options appraisal is satisfactory against the requirements in Appendix E

At the Gateway assessment for this proposal, the CAA concluded that Criterion 2 was not met for the following reasons:

Criterion 2: the change sponsor must have produced appropriate and effective consultation documents and supporting materials.

- Additional information is required in the consultation document in relation to the direct environmental impacts of the rocket launch and the additional Danger Area around the launch pad.

The CAA has informed the change sponsor of this decision. In line with CAP 1616, the change sponsor is now able to reconsider its submission before resubmitting it for further review by the CAA at a future Stage 3 'Consult' Gateway.

It is important to note that whether an ACP passes a Gateway successfully or not does not predetermine the CAA's later final decision on whether to approve the airspace change proposal. This decision is not an explicit or implicit comment on the merits or otherwise of this ACP. This will come at the decision-making stage (Stage 5 - DECIDE).

[END STATEMENT]