



ACP-2021-078 Enabling Remotely Piloted Aircraft System Operations from RAF Fairford

10 December 2025

[STATEMENT]

The Airspace Change Proposal (ACP) to implement the EDG218 complex (segments A-D) was approved for notification on 16 February 2024. During the CAA's assessment, the sponsor identified a requirement to activate the EDG218 complex in August 2024 for two operational flights. Before the airspace was activated for the two operational flights in August 2024, the sponsor demonstrated compliance with the conditions of the February 2024 decision, including the provision of suitable airspace arrangements to facilitate entry and exit routes into and out of the EDG218 complex.

In a letter from the CAA published on 6 August an additional condition was placed on sponsor due to impacts identified by Birmingham Airport such that:

1. The sponsor must conduct a Post Implementation Review (PIR) following the two operational flights in August 2024 and submit all necessary information for the PIR to the CAA by 01 October 2024. This PIR is in addition to the standard PIR requirement as documented in the ACP decision dated 16 February 2024.

The CAA assessed the information provided in the PIR report dated 01 October and published on 8 October 2024 and concluded that the sponsor should investigate mitigation strategies to resolve the impacts to operations at Birmingham Airport either through operational arrangements or modifications to the airspace design.

The sponsor has completed the requirement set out above and proposed that the base level of EGD218C is raised from FL160 to FL180 and that the top level of EGD218A is raised from FL75 to FL95 to mitigate the impacts on other airspace users specifically Birmingham Airport.

The CAA has considered its statutory duties under the Air Navigation Directions 2017 and section 70 of the Transport Act 2000. In summary, the ACP remains approved for notification as per the decision dated 16 February 2024 and the changes to the airspace identified above are **approved** for immediate implementation.

Further, the CAP1616 process requires any modifications to be reviewed and confirmed to ensure the modifications better achieve the objective and terms of the CAA's approval. Therefore, the following condition is placed on the sponsor:

1. The sponsor must conduct a review of the modifications after a period of 6 months and/or 2 activations to allow the CAA to decide if the modifications have better achieved the objective.

Once the condition above has been met the CAA will assess the information and determine the next steps in accordance with the CAP1616 process.

However, approval to activate the modified airspace structures by NOTAM are conditional all original conditions being met and all relevant evidence is submitted and assessed by CAA Airspace Regulation.

[END STATEMENT]