**Safety & Airspace Regulation Group**
Airspace, Air Traffic Management and Aerodromes Division

15th September 2026

Ref: ACP-2022-077 - Remove airport dependencies (Biggin Hill) - BIG DVOR & DET DVOR

Dear Sponsor,

The Department for Transport (DfT) has now published its Air Navigation Directions (AND) 2026 and Air Navigation Guidance (ANG) 2026 both of which come into effect on 1st October 2026. In light the changes to Government policy within the ANG 2026 and AND 2026, the CAA has also published a revised version of the airspace change process (CAP 1616 version 6) which has an effective date of 1st October 2026.

The DfT has set out the criteria for the applicability of the ANG 2026 when it becomes effective, and how this applies to Airspace Change Proposals (ACPs) which commence after the effective date and those currently in progress (ANG 2026 paragraph 11 refers), with Direction 4 of AND 2026 requiring that procedures and guidance developed by the CAA must reflect Government policies. This letter sets out how the DfT criteria applies to your ACP in accordance with ANG 2026 and CAP 1616 version 6.

Your ACP has been identified under the ANG as a TBC permanent ACP which has not yet passed the consultation gateway (Stage 3 CAP 1616 version 5.1 or earlier versions). This means that you will need to move to CAP1616 version 6 and you are required to restart your proposal in accordance with the requirements set out in CAP 1616 version 6.

The ANG 2026 provides sponsors with an option to make a request to the CAA to continue to progress existing ACPs under CAP 1616 version 5.1. If you wish to do this, you must make a formal request to the CAA in writing setting out the following.

- Provide a rationale for why your ACP should remain on CAP 1616 version 5.1 and why ANG2026 should not apply to this ACP
- Demonstrate that your proposal is progressing and has not been paused
- Provide a clear and credible timeline for the ACP
- Agree to submit your proposal to the CAA for decision by 31 July 2031

If you wish to remain on version 5.1, please write to the CAA setting out your request and supporting information by 31st January 2027.

If we do not receive a request by 31st January 2027, we will proceed on the basis that your proposal will not transition to CAP1616 version 6. If you no longer wish to progress your ACP, you are required to notify the CAA.

We intend to publish this letter on the CAA airspace change portal on the 1st October 2026.

**Civil Aviation Authority**
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If you have any questions or would like to discuss your proposal, please contact your account manager.

Yours sincerely

Ben Lippitt
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