

Humberside Airport

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HUY/ATC/ACP

Dear NATMAC Member,

As a notified stakeholder in the process you will be aware through the stakeholder consultation exercise that Humberside Airport has been proceeding with an Airspace Change Proposal (ACP) to reclassify an area of airspace in the immediate vicinity of the airport with the aim of enhancing flight safety to aircraft.

Humberside Airport currently operates in a region of Class G, or uncontrolled, airspace which has numerous and varied aircraft operations creating an often busy and complex aerial situation. The case for Class D, Controlled Airspace (CAS), was predicated on operating in this environment with a forecast continuing growth of passenger numbers and air transport movements. This was based on the figures available when the decision was made in 2006 to proceed with the ACP. Although Humberside Airport has operated safely within this environment for years, the forecast increases merited measures to enhance flight safety in the area. The most suitable option was the establishment of an area of CAS, which creates a known traffic environment. This would enhance the protection to aircraft in the most critical stages of flight, during initial departure from, and final approach to, the airport. Humberside Airport initiated the ACP process, as detailed in the stakeholder consultation document, and subsequently published the feedback from the consultation exercise document. Both documents are available to view on the airport's website (under 'About Us' and 'Development', in 'Airspace Proposal').

Unfortunately the downturn in the global economy and the knock-on effects to aviation and particularly the effects on passenger numbers has necessitated a review of the Airport's case for CAS. It has become evident that Humberside Airport's case for CAS has been lessened by the decrease in passenger numbers, and therefore it has been decided to put the ACP submission on hold until such time as deemed appropriate. We are confident that when the UK economy recovers from recession we will once again see a growth in our passenger numbers. We can then move forward with our ACP submission to ensure the continued safety of our operation.

Humberside Airport would like to take this opportunity to thank those stakeholders who have shown an interest in, and commented upon the ACP. All stakeholders will be notified when the ACP process resumes, at which time the opportunity to comment on the proposal will be presented. In the meantime, Humberside Airport will continue to provide the same high levels of service and maintain as high a standard of flight safety as possible. Furthermore, you will be assured that Humberside Airport will be investigating other measures in a continuing effort to improve the efficiency of operations at the airport.

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Stuart Hartley Air Traffic Control Manager

17 December 2009