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As Addressee List

22 May 2009

Dear Consultee

PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH CONTROLLED AIRSPACE IN THE VICINITY OF NORWICH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

SPONSOR CONSULTATION – RE-LAUNCH

A number of issues have been identified since the initial launch of this consultation and to ensure that all Consultee's have the requisite minimum period to consider a response to the document, Norwich International Airport have decided to re-launch the process.

In Autumn 2007, Norwich International Airport (NIA) consulted on the introduction of revised Instrument Approach Procedures (IAPs). At the time, we advised consultees that this activity was a pre-cursor to another proposal to introduce revised airspace arrangements in the vicinity of the Airport which would be more appropriate to sustain the growing number of public transport flights operating to and from our Airport. As a result of the overwhelming support received for our original consultation, the Civil Aviation Authority approved the revised IAPs in Spring 2008. In the interim, we have been busy preparing for the next stage of the local airspace development and this letter serves to inform you of our proposed intent.

The closure of RAF Coltishall in 2006 meant the disestablishment of a highly effective joint and integrated air traffic management system and the consequent opening up of a significant volume of airspace to new and uncontrolled airspace activity in the immediate vicinity of NIA. This has led to a significant increase in the number of aircraft which are not known to Norwich Air Traffic Control (ATC) but are operating in close proximity to the traffic flows of NIA arriving and departing aircraft. There has been a commensurate increase in ATC workload, with pilots having to take avoiding action against these unknown aircraft with resultant delays to operations and a potential impact to flight safety.

In order to meet its statutory responsibilities for safety management of the Air Traffic Services (ATS) provided and to assure an acceptable level of flight safety for aircraft inbound to or outbound from NIA in the critical stages of flight, NIA proposes to submit a case to the CAA to establish controlled airspace in the vicinity of NIA.

As part of the process for changes to the status of airspace, the CAA requires that we carry out an extensive consultation with airspace users who may be affected by the proposed changes, with national organisations representing airspace users and with organisations representing those on the ground who may, from time to time, be affected by the proposed airspace change. This is the third stage of the airspace development process, previous stages having involved specialist airspace designers and locally-based airspace users and non-aviation interested parties.

Accordingly, NIA has today launched this stage of the consultation process by publishing its Consultation Document on the NIA website www.norwichinternational.com/airspaceconsultation. The Consultation Document details the case for the proposed controlled airspace, the configuration of the proposed airspace and the options we have considered in reaching our conclusions.



The CAA requires that this consultation is conducted in accordance with the Cabinet Office Guidelines on Consultation which specify a minimum period of 12 weeks for consultation. In order to make allowance for the Spring Bank Holiday NIA intends to run the consultation for a period of 14 weeks, commencing on 22nd May 2009, in order to provide adequate time for you to consider your response with others in your organisation if necessary. The consultation will close, therefore, on 28th August 2009.

You will find in the document details of how to submit your response to the consultation or how to contact us if you have any queries on the consultation document or the consultation process itself. Please remember that even if you have no comment to make on the proposal, we would appreciate a response to that effect.

I look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Burch", is centered on the page.

Mark Burch
General Manager Air Traffic Services
Norwich International Airport

cc Mr D Miller CAA Directorate of Airspace Policy, CAS Section