

CAA NEWS RELEASE

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CAA STARTS COUNTDOWN TO LONDON OLYMPICS AND PARALYMPICS

As part of the preparations for the 2012 London Olympics and Paralympics, the UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has put in place a new structure to deal with the aviation regulatory issues involved. At the same time the CAA is asking the UK aviation industry to consider its aspirations for involvement in the Games and the impact of the CAA's regulatory requirements on those plans.

Areas that the CAA will expect to be involved in, during the build up to London 2012, include:

- Oversight of extra helicopter operations including new helipads
- Changes to airspace and routes, including restricted airspace over event locations
- Working with airports and air traffic service providers to accommodate extra demand on capacity.

The CAA is already working closely with the UK Department for Transport and various working groups of the London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympics Games. To streamline the process a new CAA Olympic and Paralympic Steering Group (COPSG) has been put in place with members from relevant parts of the CAA.

The group will co-ordinate all CAA activity relating to the Games and act as the interface with all other interested parties such as the Government, Police and the Olympic Authority. It will also develop CAA policy to assist industry in managing the safety of aviation during Olympic related activities.

Details of the CAA's work and information for the aviation industry on the London Games will be hosted on a new section of the CAA's website at

www.caa.co.uk/olympics. The content of the site will expand as the event draws closer. A specific e-mail address for enquiries from the aviation industry has also been set up at CAAolympics@caa.co.uk.

The Head of the CAA's Air Traffic Standards Division, Richard Taylor, is Chair of the new COPSG. He said: "Although the London Olympics is three years away, everyone involved in the aviation element of the Games needs to start work on their aims and plans now. The event will place an unprecedented demand on the UK's aviation infrastructure and the aviation industry needs to take a co-ordinated and measured approach to the work if this demand is to be managed effectively."

For further media information please contact Jonathan Nicholson on 020 7453 6027.

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