

All NATMAC Representatives

21 November 2008

DAP/ORA/ORA1/DARreview

NATMAC INFORMATIVE LETTER

Dean Colledge,

DANGER AREA REVIEW PAPER 2007 - RESULTS OF CONSULTATION

You will remember that the Danger Area Review Paper 2007 was sent out to you earlier this year for consultation. This consultation resulted in a small number of minor observations and one full and detailed response, which was provided by NATS. In it they highlighted concerns about the efficient use of Danger Areas and the application of the Flexible Use of Airspace (FUA) concept to this valuable airspace, making it available to other airspace users whenever possible. We have taken note of all the feedback received and tailored the package of measures to meet the Report's recommendations. As a result of the inputs, my staff have begun to develop a more focussed set of TORs for Danger Area Sponsors, and an auditing process designed to significantly improve the efficiency of Danger Area usage. The measures being implemented to take the Review recommendations forward include:

- a. A review of all Danger Area entries in the AIP, focussing on both vertical and lateral dimensions and promulgated hours of operation, and providing evidence to support dimensions and activity times..
- b. Developing a package of education and training for all Danger Area Sponsors and Managers, to raise awareness of the impact and significance of Danger Areas on UK airspace users, and to promote efficient and flexible use of airspace through active engagement with local airspace users..
- c. Providing briefings, presentations and visits to Danger Areas throughout the UK to support the education and training package.
- d. Ensuring that briefings to airspace users and ANSPs include an explanation of the important work undertaken within danger areas.
- e. Developing a new set of TORs for Danger Area sponsors, which include the maintenance of statistics, and putting in place a compliance audit system.

- f. Seek to identify and review areas of UK airspace where Danger Area and other user activities conflict. Evaluate competing demands and propose solutions that secure the most efficient use of airspace.

If you have any queries concerning this process, your point of contact is Geoff Smith, Off Route Airspace Section (CAA House, 020 7453 6541).

E.mail geoff.smith@caa.co.uk

Yours sincerely
John Arscott

J R D Arscott
Director Airspace Policy