

Modernising UK airspace and Airspace Change Process Account Managers

UKACCs Annual Meeting – Thursday 13 June 2019

Civil Aviation Authority

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Modernising UK Airspace – Strategy



CAA launched the Airspace Modernisation Strategy (CAP 1711) in December 2018.

The Strategy includes a shared objective (developed by CAA and DfT) to deliver quicker, quieter and cleaner journeys and more capacity for the benefit of those who use and are affected by UK airspace.

It supersedes the Future Airspace Strategy and sets out the ways, means and ends of modernising airspace through 15 initiatives that will modernise the design, technology and operations of airspace, initially focussing on the period until the end of 2024.

The Strategy initiates the major overhaul of this key piece of the UK's national infrastructure, enabling the ever-increasing demands on airspace to be safely managed.

It presents a new governance structure which sets out the aviation industry's responsibility for delivering the strategy and clear methods for engaging with relevant stakeholders.



Modernising UK Airspace – Strategy cont...

The 15 Initiatives...

Upper Airspace

- 1 – Direct Route Airspace
- 2 – Free Route Airspace
- 3 – Advanced Flexible Use of Airspace

Terminal Airspace

- 4 – Terminal Airspace redesign in Southern England
- 5 – Terminal Airspace redesign in Northern England & Scotland
- 6 – Queue Management

Lower Altitude

- 7 – Satellite navigation route replications
- 8 – Satellite navigation route design

Uncontrolled Airspace

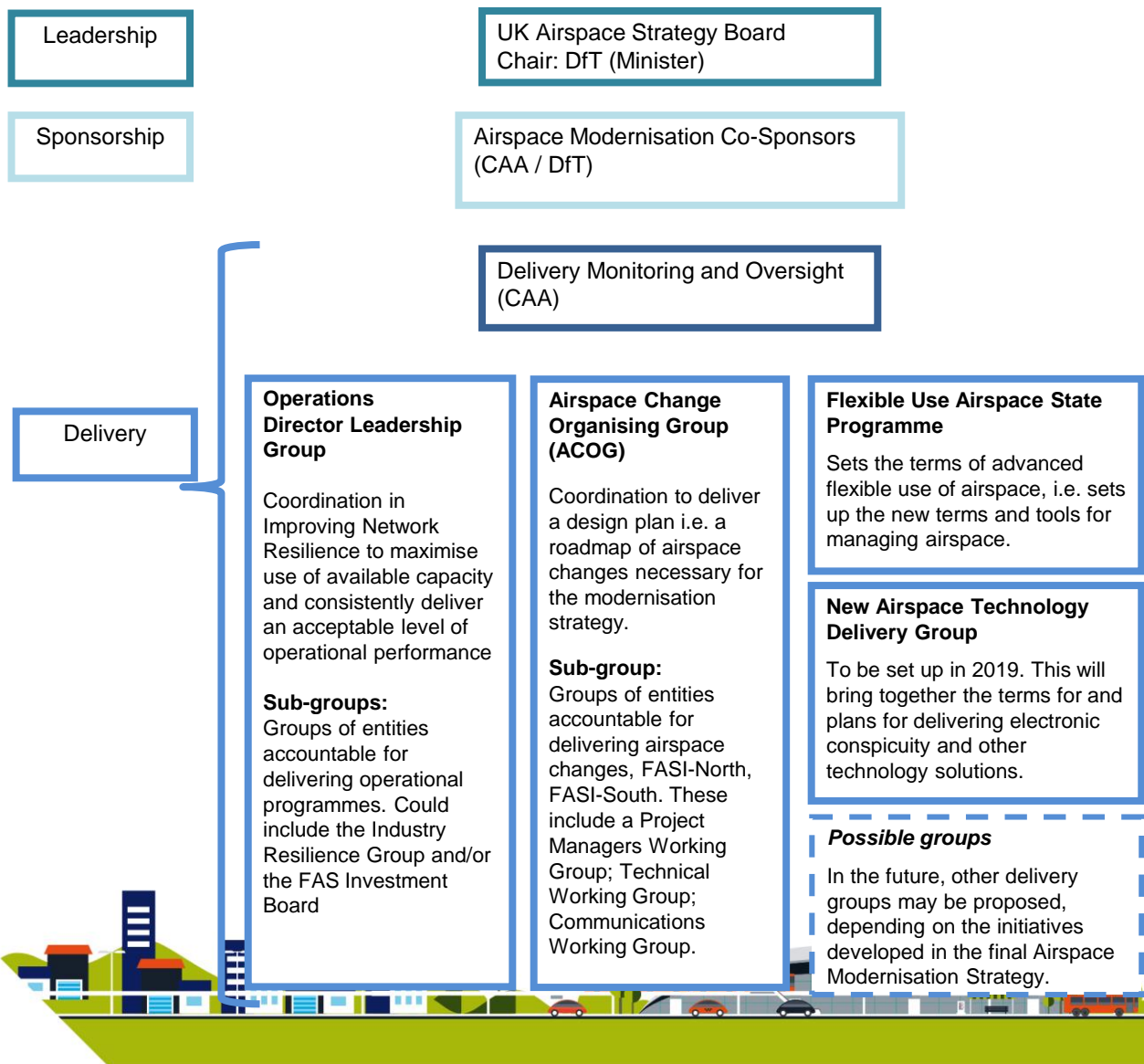
- 9 – Review of Slight Information Service provision in UK
- 10 – Airspace classification review
- 11 – Electronic surveillance solutions

CNS and ATM Infrastructure

- 12 – Cross-industry plan for the efficient use of radio-frequency spectrum
- 13 – Cross-industry plan for the full adoption of datalink communications
- 14 – A satellite navigation implementation plan
- 15 – Air traffic management



Modernising UK Airspace – Governance



- Airspace Modernisation Engagement**
- All entities listed below are either representative of a stakeholder group or will act as a conduit of information to them. The co-sponsors will request that delivery groups set out how they will engage with relevant entities including the following:
- Airspace4All: a group coordinating General Aviation roles and information (Formerly FASVIG)
 - ANEG: Airspace and Noise Engagement Group run and chaired by the DfT
 - AEF: Aviation environment and community membership body
 - Airlines UK: airline trade association
 - Airport Consultative Committees
 - AOA: Airports trade association
 - ARPAS UK: drone industry trade association
 - CDF: Community Discussion Forum run by the CAA
 - Devolved administrations
 - General and Business Aviation Strategic Forum
 - IATA: International Air Transport Association
 - ICAMS: Industry Communications for the Airspace Modernisation Strategy (previously FASIIG)
 - ICCAN: Independent Commission on Civil Aviation Noise
 - Ministry of Defence
 - NATMAC: National Air Traffic Management Advisory Committee, run by the CAA
 - SASIG: Strategic Aviation Special Interest Group for local authorities
 - Sustainable Aviation: industry coalition
 - UK Space Agency

Modernising UK Airspace – Delivery



Some of these initiatives are already being progressed through a number of modular airspace change programmes / individual airspace change proposals – for example:

- Future Airspace Strategy Implementation (FASI) South – comprises numerous airports and the airspace network over southern England (Terminal Airspace redesign in Southern England)
- FASI North – comprises numerous airports and the airspace network over northern England (Terminal Airspace redesign in Northern England & Scotland).
- Numerous individual airspace change proposals seeking to implement Performance Based Navigation (Satellite navigation route replications and Satellite navigation route design).

Each airspace change proposal is being progressed in accordance with the airspace change process.



Modernising UK Airspace – Next Steps



- The DfT and CAA are commissioning design, operational and technology studies to support the development and delivery of the Airspace Modernisation Strategy.
- The DfT is consulting on the Aviation Strategy and continuing to develop the detail of proposed policies and legislation.
- The CAA will establish the Delivery Monitoring and Oversight team to track the progress of industry-led delivery plans.
- NATS have been asked to create a single coordinated implementation plan for airspace changes in Southern England (a south-east airspace change masterplan or masterplan for short).
- NATS will establish the Airspace Change Organisation Group to coordinate industry-led activity associated with the modular airspace change programmes.



Airspace Change Process – introduction of Account Managers



The CAA has recently introduced a new Account Manager role to the Airspace Regulation team. This is a coordination-based role to address the administrative functions of the airspace change process. The need for these new roles is linked to the following:

- Demand v Resource Capacity
 - Increase in the number of airspace change proposals
 - Pressure from change sponsors to assign airspace change proposals
 - Finite Airspace Regulator (Technical) resource
- Align competencies with roles
 - Airspace Regulators (Technical) – technical decision makers
- CAA Strategic Objectives
 - Infrastructure Optimisation
 - Service Excellence
 - Technological Innovation



Airspace Change Process – introduction of Account Managers cont...



From a change sponsor perspective the Account Manager role will:

- Provide a single point of contact for all initial airspace change process related enquiries
- Ensure consistent communication channels both in to and out of the airspace change process
- Oversight/awareness of the airspace change process programme timeline and subsequent impacts of project slippage
- Allows the subject matter experts to utilise their time more effectively on their relevant technical expert areas



Airspace Change Process – introduction of Account Managers cont...



Progress made to date:

- 3 Account Managers recruited and now in post.
- Already assigned a combination of assigned and unassigned airspace change proposals; 24 airspace change proposals have already been assigned to the team.
- Refinement of related working procedures and external/internal documentation.



Any Questions?

Points of Contact

Airspace Modernisation Strategy enquiries:
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