

AERODROMES

1 SCOPE

- 1.1 This annex covers the interface between the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and the Civil Aviation Authority/Safety Regulation Group CAA/SRG in relation to health and safety at aerodromes.

2 LEGISLATION

2.1 *HSE/Local Authority remit*

- 2.1.1 The HSE and relevant Local Government Authorities (LAs) are responsible for enforcing health and safety law at all aerodromes. However, this responsibility is divided between the HSE and LAs by the Health and Safety (Enforcing Authority) Regulations 1998.

- 2.1.2 As a consequence the HSE is responsible for dealing with most activities at airports (see para 2.1.5), except for:

- Common parts inside buildings, such as areas which are open to members of the public whether passengers or not.
- Organisations whose *main* activity at the airport is:
 - Shops, restaurants or other retail activities
 - Office activities
 - Provision of car parking facilities within the airport perimeter

- 2.1.3 However, the HSE remains responsible for all activities of the Crown, Police, Local Government and Fire Authorities, wherever those activities take place.

- 2.1.4 Note: A common part is that part of the premises used in common by, or for providing common services to, or common facilities for all the occupiers of the premises.

In some areas HSE and LA inspectors have joint warrants which enable them to inspect any work activities covered by HSWA.

- 2.1.5 *The Regulations do not define 'airport', but the HSE interprets an airport to be any aerodrome, except those used predominantly by private flying clubs, or for entertainment flights.*

- 2.1.6 At aerodromes which are not airports, it will normally be the LA which enforces health and safety legislation. However, at such aerodromes the HSE remains responsible for enforcing health and safety law in relation to:

- All activities of the Crown (including the military), Local Government, Police and Fire Authorities.
- The following activities if undertaken by persons who do not normally work at the aerodrome:
 - Construction activities.
 - The installation, maintenance and repair of electricity systems.
 - The installation, maintenance and repair of any gas system, or any work in relation to a gas fitting.
- All activities involving work with ionising radiations.

2.2 *SRG remit*

- 2.2.1 It is the responsibility of the SRG to ensure that the holders of aerodrome licences are competent and suitable persons to exercise the privileges of those licences. The requirements for an aerodrome to be licensed are described in Article 126 of the Air Navigation Order (as amended) but may be summarised

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as applying to those aerodromes where public transport operations or flying training operations take place.

- 2.2.2 Public transport includes any flight where passengers and/or cargo are carried for a fare, but does not include flights where passengers agree to share the cost of fuel.
- 2.2.3 Flying training operations include any activity connected with acquiring or altering a pilot's licence. It does not include pleasure flights where a passenger, who is a permanent or temporary member of a flying club, may briefly take the controls of an aircraft, for example a glider.

3 INTERFACE ARRANGEMENTS

- 3.1 SRG will lead on those issues which concern the safety of aircraft at aerodromes. The HSE will lead on those issues which concern the health and safety of ground-based workers, or those affected by ground-based activities.
- 3.2 Where an issue is likely to involve both agencies, there should be appropriate co-operation, initially through the Transportation Section for the HSE and Head of Aerodromes for SRG (see [MoU Contacts Schedule for details](#))
- 3.3 Examples of the division of responsibilities between the HSE/LAs and SRG are given in Table 1.
- 3.4 *Unlicensed aerodromes*
- 3.4.1 Although many aerodromes do not need a licence, SRG is still responsible for all matters affecting the safety of aircraft at aerodromes through its regulation of aircraft operating and maintenance competence.

Table 1 Examples of CAA and HSE/LA responsibilities at licensed aerodromes

Subject	CAA Responsibility	HSE/LA responsibility
Aerodrome licensing.	All issues.	None.
Aerodrome layout.	All issues relating to the effect of aerodrome layout on the safety of aircraft.	All other health and safety issues relating to aerodrome layout.
Aerodrome lighting.	Adequacy of lighting systems intended to ensure aircraft safety and their maintenance. Issues relating to lighting which may compromise aircraft safety on and around the aerodrome.	Safety during maintenance and installation of all lighting on the aerodrome. Issues relating to all other lighting on the aerodrome.
Obstructions on and around the aerodrome.	All issues relating to obstructions which affect aircraft safety.	Issues relating to obstructions on the aerodrome which affect the safety of persons.
Co-ordination of air traffic and procedures with other aerodromes.	All issues.	None.
Aircraft fuelling.	Quality, storage and handling of fuel in respect of	All other issues pertaining to fuel.

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Subject	CAA Responsibility	HSE/LA responsibility
	the safety of the aircraft.	
Vehicle safety.	Adequacy of vehicle maintenance in as far as it affects aircraft safety.	All other issues pertaining to vehicle safety, except those which are the responsibility of the Police.
Driver Training.	Adequacy in driver training in as far as it affects aircraft safety.	All other issues pertaining to vehicle drivers, except those which are the responsibility of the Police.
Bird control activities.	The adequacy of bird control.	Health and safety of those involved in bird control.
Airport Rescue and Fire-fighting Services (RFFS)	Adequacy of RFFS.	Health and safety of RFFS personnel, including health and safety during training.
Aircraft maintenance.	Adequacy and quality of maintenance and technical competence of those involved.	Health and safety of those involved, including their health and safety training.
Safety of aircraft in flight.	See Annex 1 and 8.	See Annex 1 and 8.
Dangerous goods.	See Annex 3.	See Annex 3.
The Civil Aviation (Access to Air Travel for Disabled Persons and Persons of Reduced Mobility (PRMs)) Regulations 2007	The Regulations place duties on airport managing bodies, air carriers, their agents or tour operators in respect of the servicer. The Regulations designate the CAA as the body responsible for the enforcement of the EC Regulations. Enforcement and complaints under this legislation are the responsibility of CAA, the General Consumer Council for Northern Ireland and the Commission for Equality and Human Rights	Health and safety of those involved in providing the services to disabled passengers, including their health and safety training, and any other person who may be affected, including passengers.

Note: The HSE is responsible for the items listed in Table 1 in relation to licensed aerodromes which are also airports defined by Paragraph 2.1.5. At licensed aerodromes that are not airports, the LA will be responsible for enforcement.

4 INSPECTION AND INCIDENT INVESTIGATION

4.1 *HSE remit*

4.1.1 Except as prohibited by specific statutory requirements, HSE will advise and consult SRG on any incident or finding which might affect the safety of aircraft

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and will take appropriate action in response to Mandatory Occurrence Reports (MOR) which are referred to it by the SRG.

4.2 *SRG remit*

4.2.1 Except as prohibited by specific statutory requirements, SRG will advise and consult the HSE on any incident, finding or MOR which might affect the safety of persons working at aerodromes or affected by ground-based activities.

5 ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION

5.1 *HSE remit*

5.1.1 HSE may investigate accidents and incidents that occur within its areas of responsibility and will co-operate with other agencies, as appropriate.

5.2 *SRG remit*

5.2.1 SRG will co-operate with other agencies in the investigation of accidents and incidents.

[Note: The agency charged with investigating accidents and incidents to aircraft is the DfT Air Accident Investigation Branch (AAIB)]

Revision History		
Version	Date	Reason for Issue
Issue 1		First issue
Issue 2	26 January 2000	Annex re-numbered to avoid confusion with 'LEGISLATION' annex. Organisation details updated.
Issue 2.1	7 March 2000	Minor corrections incorporated.
Issue 2.2	7 March 2005	Revision to HSE contact details and minor editorial amendments.
Issue 2.3	1 April 2006	Amendment to ANO article numbers to reflect ANO 2005.
Issue 2.4	04 August 2009	Minor editorial changes and inclusion of reference to PRM Regulations

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