Safety Regulation Group
Aerodrome and Air Traffic Standards Division

22 February 2012

Dear Sir/Madam

LETTER OF CONSULTATION: CAP 797 FLIGHT INFORMATION SERVICE OFFICER MANUAL

Introduction

The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) publishes guidance on service provision for Flight Information Service Officers (FISOs) in CAP 410 Manual of Flight Information Services Parts A and B (www.caa.co.uk/cap410). This guidance was last updated in March 2002 and requires update to more accurately reflect the current role of the FISO, especially relating to procedures and phraseology.

A new Flight Information Service Officer Manual (CAP 797), which will replace CAP 410 Parts A and B, is presented for comment. The new document covers both aerodrome and area operations, with guidance on FISO licensing remaining in CAP 427 Flight Information Service and the FISO licence (www.caa.co.uk/cap427).

Purpose

The content of CAP 797 aims to standardise the procedures and phraseology used by FISOs, whilst also addressing areas previously un-referenced.

Whilst drafting the new document, industry highlighted the need for procedures and phraseology that provide for safety of operations whilst supporting service provision within the privileges of the FISO licence. These requirements have been foremost in the development of the new procedures and phraseology, though no extension of FISO licence privileges is proposed.

Discussion

The new CAP seeks to overcome differing interpretations of certain procedures and phraseology, by standardising salient issues highlighted by industry.

The most frequently referenced issue was the procedures and phraseology used by Aerodrome Flight Information Service Officers in the vicinity of a runway-in-use, and specifically at the holding point. Therefore, attention is drawn to new content addressing the use of ‘report lined-up’ contained in Section 2 Aerodrome Flight Information Services and Section 4 Phraseology and FIS Requirements for Communications.

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Proposal

The CAA invites all stakeholders to review and comment upon CAP 797 Flight Information Service Officer Manual. The draft document can be viewed on the consultations area of the CAA website via www.caa.co.uk/consultations.

Comments and enquiries regarding this consultation should be sent to:

By post:

Air Traffic Standards Department
Safety Regulation Group
Civil Aviation Authority
2W Aviation House
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By e-mail: ats.documents@caa.co.uk

Comments must be received by **18 May 2012**.

Yours faithfully

Aerodrome and Air Traffic Standards Division