

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

9 February 2017  
Reference: F0003064

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing in respect of your recent request of 20 January 2017, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Further to your previous request (F0003048), you have asked for the following information:

*'Is there any possibility that you have this information as a tracking map, showing the actual ground track of aircraft on a map, in a form similar to the following screenshot from Casper which is Gatwick Airport Ltd's flight tracking tool.*

*Stuart Lindsey showed exactly this type of tracking map dating from 2004 at the AGM of Plane Wrong on Thursday 13th October 2016. Would you be able to send me this map and in addition any maps which show similar information to the map presented by Stuart Lindsey, albeit I appreciate that they are historic maps and may not be in the same format, which go back to 1989.*

*A sample for every 5 years from 1989 to 2007 will suffice.'*

Our response:

Your request has been considered in line with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). Please note that the CAA does not hold radar data for Gatwick airport prior to 1996. As the information requested is not held by us, Regulation 12(4)(a) of the EIR applies. A copy of this exception can be found below.

However, I have attached maps showing the pattern of Route 4 departure tracks for the period 6-10 August during 1996, 2001 and 2006. The number of departure tracks shown for each sample period is also reported. Also shown for reference on each map is the noise preferential routes (NPR) centreline and the 3km-wide monitoring swathe.

If you are not satisfied with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you should approach the CAA in writing at:-

Caroline Chalk  
Head of External Information Services  
Civil Aviation Authority  
Aviation House  
Gatwick Airport South  
Gatwick  
RH6 0YR

[caroline.chalk@caa.co.uk](mailto:caroline.chalk@caa.co.uk)

The CAA has a formal internal review process for dealing with appeals or complaints in connection with Freedom of Information requests. The key steps in this process are set in the attachment.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under Section 50 of the FOIA to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner at:-

Information Commissioner's Office  
FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
SK9 5AF

<https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>

If you wish to request further information from the CAA, please use the form on the CAA website at <http://publicapps.caa.co.uk/modalapplication.aspx?appid=24>.

Yours sincerely



Rihanne Stephen  
Information Rights Officer

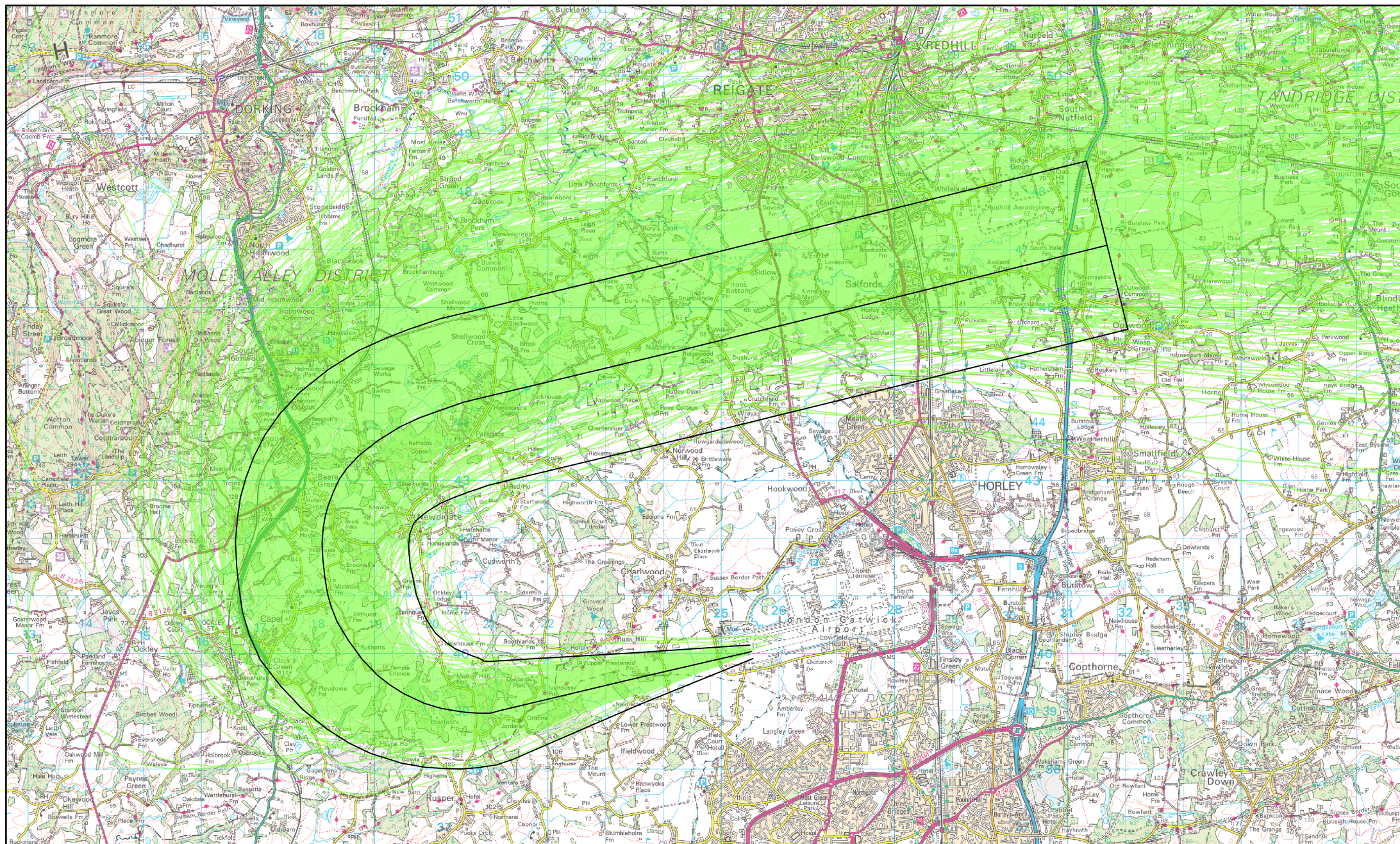
## **CAA INTERNAL REVIEW & COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE**

- The original case to which the appeal or complaint relates is identified and the case file is made available;
- The appeal or complaint is allocated to an Appeal Manager, the appeal is acknowledged and the details of the Appeal Manager are provided to the applicant;
- The Appeal Manager reviews the case to understand the nature of the appeal or complaint, reviews the actions and decisions taken in connection with the original case and takes account of any new information that may have been received. This will typically require contact with those persons involved in the original case and consultation with the CAA Legal Department;
- The Appeal Manager concludes the review and, after consultation with those involved with the case, and with the CAA Legal Department, agrees on the course of action to be taken;
- The Appeal Manager prepares the necessary response and collates any information to be provided to the applicant;
- The response and any necessary information is sent to the applicant, together with information about further rights of appeal to the Information Commissioners Office, including full contact details.

## **Regulation 12 of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004**

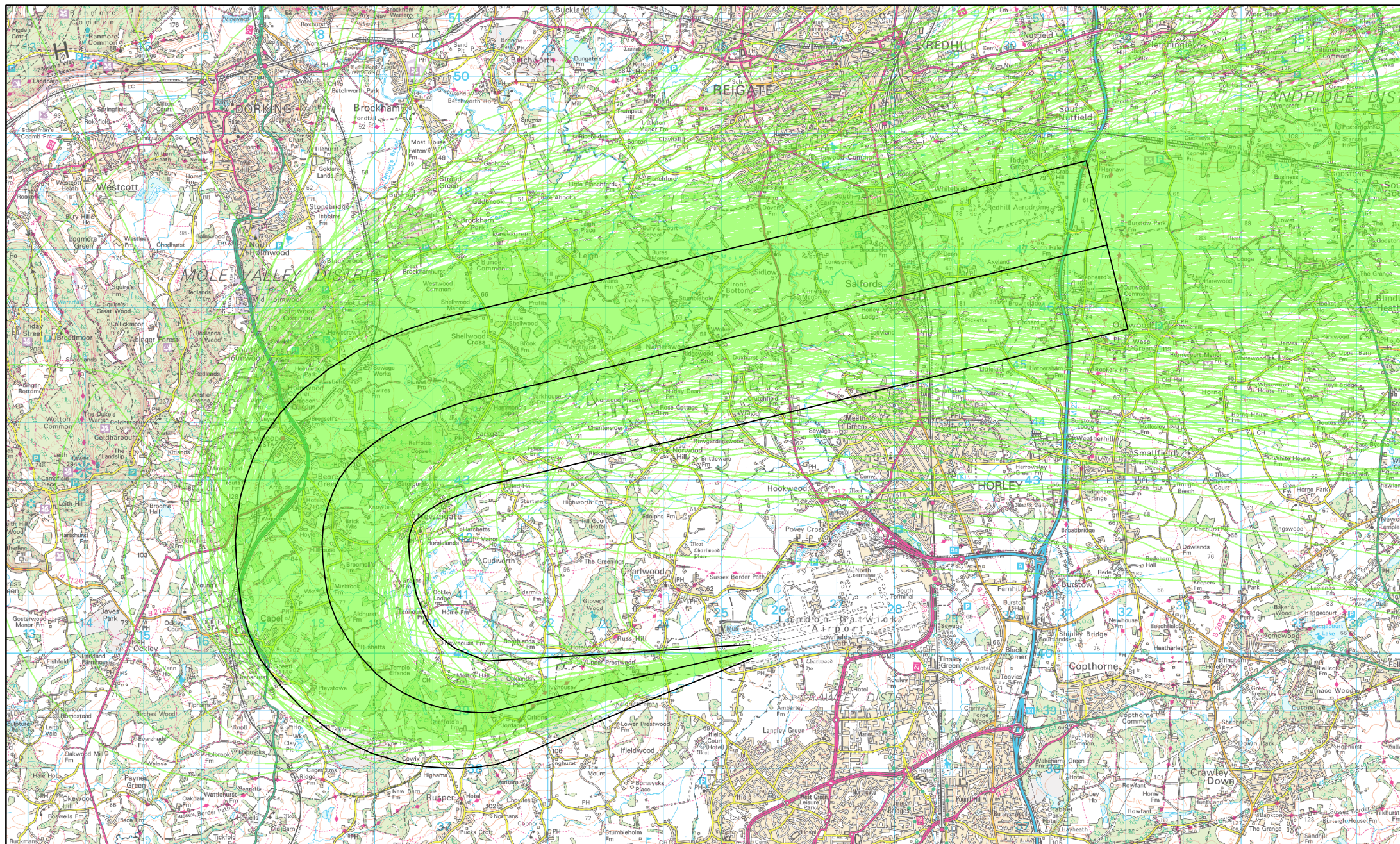
- (1) Subject to paragraphs (2), (3) and (9), a public authority may refuse to disclose environmental information requested if—
- (a) an exception to disclosure applies under paragraphs (4) or (5); and
  - (b) in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exception outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.
- (2) A public authority shall apply a presumption in favour of disclosure.
- (3) To the extent that the information requested includes personal data of which the applicant is not the data subject, the personal data shall not be disclosed otherwise than in accordance with regulation 13.
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(a), a public authority may refuse to disclose information to the extent that—
- (a) it does not hold that information when an applicant's request is received;
  - (b) the request for information is manifestly unreasonable;
  - (c) the request for information is formulated in too general a manner and the public authority has complied with regulation 9;
  - (d) the request relates to material which is still in the course of completion, to unfinished documents or to incomplete data; or
  - (e) the request involves the disclosure of internal communications
- 5) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(a), a public authority may refuse to disclose information to the extent that its disclosure would adversely affect—
- (a) international relations, defence, national security or public safety;
  - (b) the course of justice, the ability of a person to receive a fair trial or the ability of a public authority to conduct an inquiry of a criminal or disciplinary nature;
  - (c) intellectual property rights;
  - (d) the confidentiality of the proceedings of that or any other public authority where such confidentiality is provided by law;
  - (e) the confidentiality of commercial or industrial information where such confidentiality is provided by law to protect a legitimate economic interest;
  - (f) the interests of the person who provided the information where that person—
    - (i) was not under, and could not have been put under, any legal obligation to supply it to that or any other public authority;
    - (ii) did not supply it in circumstances such that that or any other public authority is entitled apart from these Regulations to disclose it; and
    - (iii) has not consented to its disclosure; or
  - (g) the protection of the environment to which the information relates.





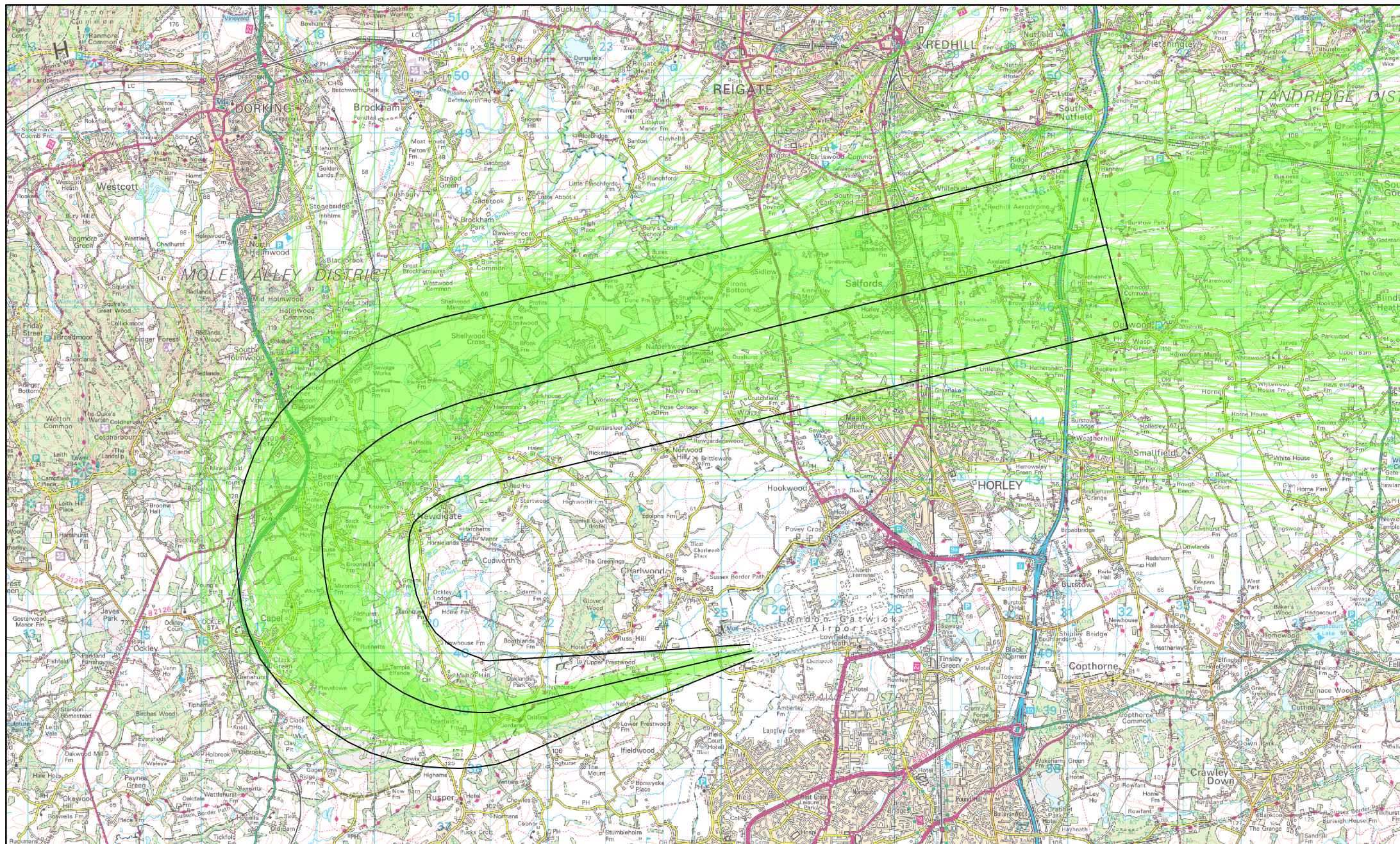
Gatwick airport: Route 4 departures radar tracks between 6-10 Aug 1996 (Number of tracks=671)





Gatwick airport: Route 4 departures radar tracks between 6-10 Aug 2001 (Number of tracks=831)





Gatwick airport: Route 4 departures radar tracks between 6-10 Aug 2006 (Number of tracks=573)