

GENERAL AND BUSINESS AVIATION STRATEGIC FORUM

Tuesday 5 February 2018 10:00-12:30
CAA Aviation House, Gatwick Airport

In attendance:

Roger Hopkinson (RH)	General Aviation Alliance, GAA (Chair)
Martin Robinson (MR)	Aircraft Owners & Pilots Association, AOPA
Marc Bailey (MB)	British Business & General Aviation Association, BBGA
Mike Alcock (MA)	Head of Aviation Safety Strategy, DfT
Andy Kirby (AK)	GA Strategy & Legislation Team, DfT
Richard Moriarty (RM)	Chief Executive, CAA
Mark Swan (MS)	Director Safety & Airspace Regulation, CAA
Tony Rapson (TR)	Head of GA Unit, CAA
Stu Wain (SW)	Manager, Airspace Regulation, CAA
Rebecca Roberts-Hughes (RRH)	Head of Policy Development (Strategy & Policy Department), CAA
Germaine Faulkner (GF)	Head of Aviation Services (Shared Service Centre), CAA
Laurence Baxter (LB)	GA Policy Officer, CAA (Secretary)

Apologies: None

1. Introduction, Apologies and Chair's Preface

The Chair welcomed that there were no apologies.

2. Minutes from the last meeting

The minutes from the meeting on 15 November 2018 were adopted with one minor amendment. The Secretary also tabled a shortened version of the Minutes for public dissemination further to Action Item 92 which were adopted wholeheartedly by the Forum with no amendments.

Action Item 92 (continued): Secretary to publish shortened version of 15 Nov 2018 minutes on the CAA website

3. Review of actions and matters arising

Action 87 *Revisited Strategy Measurement on Commitment for Airspace*: Item carried over to next meeting, however this is partially covered in the wider airspace modernisation work [see Agenda Item 4(a)].

Action Item 98: Chair/MA to discuss with RRH regarding Airspace Modernisation Strategy in relation the revisited strategy measurement

Action 89: *Liaison with Minister's Office regarding possibility of her attending a NATMAC meeting*: abandoned due to the ongoing issue of Ministerial availability at this time. Item closed.

Action 92: *Chair/Secretary to trial shortened version of minutes for wider public dissemination*: see Agenda Item 2 above.

Action 93: MA to discuss with MR/RH establishing expert groups on GA skills and technology/drones: MA to discuss with drones team in DfT to establish a specific meeting on this topic, making use of the APPG in coordination with MB.

MS also mentioned that NATMAC is developing a drone operators forum. The Chair suggested that Dave Phipps of the British Model Flying Association (BMFA) be added to this Group and will send details to MS.

Action Item 99: Chair to provide Dave Phipps BMFA details for the NATMAC Drone Operators Forum

Action 94: *MA to investigate and report back on a mechanism to bring new EASA regulations, wanted and supported by the UK, into UK law in the event of a hard Brexit*: there was a question of whether Implementing Rule auto-adoption post-Brexit should be under consideration. MA to continue to investigate and report back.

Action 95: *MR/RH/MA to liaise with Home Office regarding technology of GAR submissions*: this has been delayed due to personnel changes at the Home Office. AK described the system currently in Beta testing, with a possible March/April launch. AK to set up separate meeting to discuss both this and Action 96.

Action 96: *RH to provide MA with a brief on Ireland/Channel Island flight GAR notification periods*: RH has provided this briefing and further action merged with Item 95. Item closed.

Action 97: *RH to agree with Minister's office date for meeting*: now scheduled for 14 March RH attending with MR, RM and TR. Item closed.

4. Airspace

a) Airspace Modernisation Strategy update:

RRH briefed on the background, policy, strategy and delivery in 2018, governance structure, various current initiatives. The Forum discussed timely and effective GA community engagement; proposals for lower airspace electronic conspicuity; and agreed that the airspace engagement needs separate focus to review general aviation, search & rescue aviation and business aviation interests.

Action Item 100: MA to set up meeting with RRH and Sarah Bishop (DfT) on AMS

b) Airspace current developments update:

SW briefed on the latest developments especially the Electronic Conspicuity Deployment Programme (ECDP), included a programme overview, scope, challenges, a summary of the consultation forthcoming in March and next steps. The *Share the Air* Conference in June was also highlighted.

5. DfT Update

a) **Brexit**: the Forum discussed the pressures facing the Community and the need for further information on no-deal contingencies. The CAA has published as much as it is able (eg RM's participation as an expert speaker on a panel on Brexit at the BBGA Conference in March). However details are constrained by the ongoing negotiations. Stakeholders reiterated concerns about the practical impact of this uncertainty.

b) **Aviation Strategy Green Paper**: the Forum discussed the Green Paper published on 17 December, and closing on 11 April. The Government has already received some feedback, and the Minister (scheduled to meet with GBASF representatives on 14 March – see Agenda Item 10 below) has clarified intentions to engage with stakeholders. Together with individual discussions as appropriate, it was considered a specific round table discussion might be appropriate, and MA agreed to progress this.

Action Item 101: MA to explore possibility of organising an Aviation Strategy roundtable involving the Minister

c) **Airfields consultation/Byron paper**: the substance and merits of some of the recommendations were discussed including the need for sufficient evidence base considering implications for local land. Further development of the recommendations should include liaison with APPG Airfields group.

Action Item 102: MA to pick up discussion and review of the aerodrome network theme

6. GA Unit update

a) GA Success Measures update:

The Forum discussed the slides that TR presented. The gradual reduction in the registered and active GA fleet continues, and members noted that this structural trend is likely to continue without managed change. It was noted that specific step change events could support GA growth: drone technology, the 600kg Basic Regulation opt-out might allow UK to develop the light aircraft class so successful in US.

b) GA Programme update:

TR briefed the Forum on eight major projects currently progressed within the General Aviation Unit: Declared Training Organisations, changes to balloon regulations, the move to on-line PPL theoretical knowledge exams, delegation to the BMAA of initial issue Permits to Fly, the Permit to Fly condition on overflight over congested areas, CAP 1724 Display Standards document, Part SPO implementation, the 450-600kg light aircraft opt-out, and remunerated training in Permit aircraft.

7. Delegation to the BMAA to issue national licences

GF of the CAA Shared Services Centre briefed on the background as well as legal, process, cost and relationship considerations. Implementation is planned by end of May 2019. The Forum was generally supportive of the approach and were looking forward to regular programme update.

8. Aviation Services update

MB updated the Forum on the general aviation sector apprenticeships activities. Several apprenticeship set-up models have been established, with the KLM model promoted in the APPG for proliferation elsewhere. A working group has been set up with terms of reference agreed and a second airworthiness session scheduled for later in February; while a trailblazer has been agreed for flight operations to encourage larger organisations.

Action Item 103: MA to investigate establishing an official's meeting to discuss Aviation Services.

9. Strategy Grid Review

There were no actions arising from this discussion.

10. Annual Report to the Aviation Minister

A Ministerial meeting involving the Chair, MR and MB is scheduled for 14 March, and MA is organising a separate official's meeting to discuss Aviation Services [Agenda Item 8 above]. Members noted the implications of the Green Paper on the aviation strategy, and the ongoing role of the Forum.

Action Item 104: MA to ensure that Aviation Strategy White Paper reflects the GBASF's current oversight function as set out in Terms of Reference.

11. Any Other Business

None.

Next four meetings

All meetings are at 10.00-12.00 in Aviation House, Gatwick unless otherwise communicated:

- Tuesday 7 May
- Thursday 5 September
- Thursday 14 November
- Tuesday 4 February 2020

There is also a potential GBASF/CAA Board meeting scheduled on 20 Nov 2019 at Turweston