How airspace works and the roles of those involved

4



Our skies are categorised as either controlled or uncontrolled airspace. Safety is our priority, followed by a list of other duties. One of these is the environment, on which the Government tasks us with:

Controlled airspace is where most airliners fly and is found around major airports and includes the airways system that aircraft use to fly around the world.

3

IN 1973 UK AIRPORTS HANDLED 720,000 FLIGHTS BY AIRLINERS – BY 2014 THAT HAD GROWN TO OVER 2 MILLION 6,000 EACH DAY UK AIRSPACE HANDLES AROUND 6,000 FLIGHTS, OF WHICH 3,500 ARE TO OR FROM LONDON ABOVE 7,000FT Priority is the potential to minimise CO₂ emissions **7,000ft**

CO₂

AND 7,000FT Balance of noise and CO₂ emissions

5,000ft

,000ft

5 00

4,000ft

BELOW 4,000FT

Priority is managing and mitigating noise. Local air quality also considered

3.000ft



Uncontrolled airspace is primarily used by private aviation – balloons, light aircraft gliders etc, the military and other flights like emergency service helicopters.

THE BASIC STRUCTURE OF OUR AIRSPACE WAS DEVELOPED

5

OVER 40 YEARS AGO

If air traffic control or airports want to permanently change the structure of controlled airspace or the flightpaths within it then their proposed change needs to go through our airspace change process.

6

4

In controlled

airspace air traffic

controllers manage

the airspace to deliver

safe and efficient operations based

on the aircraft's flight plan and wishes of the pilot.

> In uncontrolled airspace pilots mainly choose their own route while complying with CAA safety rules

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Find out more at: www.caa.co.uk/airspacechange