

13 April 2022

Dear Colleague

Re. The Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel and Operator Liability) (England) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2022

At 4am on Friday 18 March 2022 the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel and Operator Liability) (England) Regulations 2021 (as amended), (the Regulations) were revoked. The CAA is the enforcement body for the Regulations.

This revocation removed the requirement on operators in respect of passengers arriving into England to undertake checks of passengers' Passenger Locator Form (PLF) and the evidence to support the declarations made within the PLF.

As a result of the revocation of the Regulations, from 4am on Friday 18 March, the CAA ceased all enforcement checks in relation to the Regulations. This includes undertaking spot checks of arriving passengers and undertaking audits of operators' systems and processes to meet the requirements of the Regulations.

For the avoidance of doubt, the CAA will continue to pursue payment of any Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) which were issued in relation to any violation of the Regulations prior to their revocation. Any outstanding FPNs which you have received should be discharged without further delay. In the event that the FPNs remain unpaid, the CAA will consider further enforcement action.

The revocation of these Regulations is an important milestone in aviation as the travel industry looks to the future following the Covid pandemic. To ensure the protection of public health, the government has confirmed that it will maintain a range of contingency measures in reserve, which would enable it to take swift and proportionate action to delay any future harmful variants of COVID-19 entering the UK should the need arise. In future, the government's default approach will be to use the least stringent measures, if appropriate, to minimise the impact on travel as far as possible and contingency measures would only be implemented in extreme circumstances.

While we all hope that such regulations are not required again in the future, we would encourage operators to have contingency plans in place.

I would also like to take the opportunity to note that based on the evidence that we have, operator compliance with the Regulations has generally been very good. I would like to acknowledge the significant efforts made by operators to comply with the Regulations over the last 15 months and thank you for these.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Smith". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted to the right.

Paul Smith
Group Director of Consumers and Markets