

# AIRSPACE CO-ORDINATION NOTICE

Safety and Airspace Regulation Group

Civil Aviation  
Authority

ACN Reference:	Version:	Date:	Date of Original
AR-2025-9134	1.0	12/12/2025	12/12/2025

## COBRA WARRIOR 26-1

## MILITARY EXERCISE

Subject to NOTAM: Yes (by Airspace Regulation)

Date(s) of activity/Validity:

16<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Times - ALL TIMES UTC

10:00 – 13:30 See section 2

Vertical Limits:

SFC – FL660

Allocated Mode 3A (SSR):

1500 – 1577 & 2400 – 2477

Aircraft Details:

See Section 2

NDS Approved:

Not applicable

Event Sponsor(s):

SO2 A7 Training Enablers  
HQ 11 Gp  
Air Command  
Hurricane Block  
RAF High Wycombe  
Walters Ash  
Bucks  
HP14 4UE

Project Officer (Sqn Ldr Clark): +447929842114

Aircraft Operator(s):

**British Army** - 1 Regt AAC  
**Draken Aviation**  
**Royal Air Force** - 1 Sqn, 6 Sqn, 9 Sqn, 11 Sqn, 18 Sqn, 10/101 Sqn, 30 Sqn, 70 Sqn, 99 Sqn, 19/20 Sqn, 78 Sqn, 6 FTS (Tutor)  
**Royal Navy** – 815 NAS  
**German Air Force** – TAW74  
**Polish Air Force** - 3 Sqn  
**USAF** – 552 ACW (E3G)  
**NATO** – NAEWF (E3A)

ATS Units/

Controlling Agencies:

CRC Boulmer (19 Sqn) – FA 01665 608011  
Swanwick Mil (78 Sqn) – East 01489 612408  
Swanwick Mil (78 Sqn) – North 01489 612943  
Swanwick Mil (78 Sqn) – Ex Co-ord 02380 401523  
*-1Info: Aberdeen, Anglia Radar, Coningsby, Edinburgh, Humberside, Lakenheath, Leeds/Bradford, Leeming, Leuchars, Newcastle, Prestwick ACC, Swanwick ACC, Teesside*

Geographical Limits:



Airspace Reservations:

EGD407	Warcop	01768 343224
EGD408	Feldom	01748 875502
EGD510	Spadeadam	01697 749486
EGD512	Otterburn	01912 394261
EGD513 (All)	Druridge Bay	01489 612495
EGD514	Combat Airspace	01489 612495
EGD604	Barry Buddon	01313 103426
EGR446	Hartlepool	SI 1003/2016
EGR516	Torness	SI 1003/2016
NSGA 1	Scotland	See Para 45
NSGA 1A	Borders	See Para 45
PARA	Errol	01821 642454

Departure/Destination Aerodrome(s)

EGNV, EGQS, EGVN, EGXC, EGXE, EGXW, EGUN, EGDY, EGVO, EGNC

ACN Issued by:

AU3

## SECTION 1: CO-ORDINATION ARRANGEMENTS (GENERAL)

1. The pilot/operator is requested to telephone the ATC authorities on the cover prior to departure in order to notify or update the sortie details including area(s) of operation and planned levels (quoting the ACN Reference). A minimum of 24 hours' notice should be given unless specified in Section 2.
2. There may be other aircraft and/or activities outside Controlled/Regulated Airspace unknown to ATC.
3. The carriage and operation of a serviceable transponder (including Mode 'C') has been specified.
4. The pilot will be responsible for obtaining all necessary ATC clearances and for maintaining R/T contact with appropriate ATC authorities.
5. The pilot/operator will be responsible for obtaining prior clearances to enter any UK Danger Areas affected by the flight profile from the appropriate Range Control Authority unless this is specifically detailed in Section 2.
6. Other Unusual Aerial Activities (UAAs) may be notified to the CAA Safety and Airspace Regulation Group (SARG) and may take place within the airspace encompassed by this flight. The pilot/operator is to ensure that UK Daily NOTAM Nav Warnings are consulted prior to each flight.
7. All flights within Controlled Airspace are subject to the requirements of a Flight Plan in accordance with UK AIP ENR1.10. The ACN Reference should be entered into Field 18 of the Flight Plan together with any relevant 'special handling' codes.
8. Flight prioritisation and Non-Deviating Status is in accordance with the information specified on the ACN Cover. Such status may be afforded to part or all of the flight – see Section 2.
9. Availability of an ATS from Swanwick Military (78 Sqn) is subject to unit capacity, priorities and limitations of radar and radio coverage. Minimum pre-flight notification as per UK AIP ENR 1.6 unless otherwise specified in Section 2 of this ACN.
10. The CAA actively encourages the use of Moving map technology in the planning and flying phases of flights to reduce the risk of airspace infringements.

## PUBLICATIONS AND CHANGES

11. The activity area may lie within Controlled and Uncontrolled Airspace as well as airspace reserved for military use. Aircrew are to thoroughly familiarise themselves with UK airspace structures and procedures, in particular those laid down within the UK Aeronautical Information Publication (UK AIP), ENR 1.1 and be fully conversant with UK Flight Information Services in accordance with UK CAP 493 (MATS Pt 1).
12. The CAA VFR 1:500,000 and 1:250,000 charts and the UK AIP ENR 5 depict some, but not all aviation activity sites and amendments should also be checked. Please refer to <http://www.nats-uk.ead-it.com>
13. This ACN details specific coordination essential to the activity taking place and does not remove the need for aircraft operators to comply with national flight planning and notification procedures. Pilots and ANSPs are required to ensure that all related aviation sites are aware of this planned activity and of subsequent changes not captured within this document.
14. The Sponsor or Event Organiser should co-ordinate any changes to this ACN with SARG quoting the ACN Reference at the top of the page.

Airspace Regulation (Utilisation) – AU3  
Email: [AROps@caa.co.uk](mailto:AROps@caa.co.uk) Tel: 01293 983880

## SECTION 2: CO-ORDINATION ARRANGEMENTS (SPECIFIC)

15. This ACN details the basic details coordination and controlling authorities for Exercise COBRA WARRIOR 26, a large-scale military exercise consisting of various aircraft types across significant portions of the North Sea within Danger Area EGD514, North Yorkshire and Northumberland.

16. Up to 70 military aircraft operating in mixed formations including Fast Jets, Intelligence, Surveillance & Reconnaissance aircraft, Air to Air Refuelling (AAR), Rotary Wing and Air Mobility (both Fixed Wing and Rotary Wing), Exercise traffic will conduct air-to-air combat radar profiles (100nm+), supersonic flight, radar and communications jamming, and air combat serials.

17. **Low Level Over the Sea.** Aircraft planning to operate at or below 3,000ft AMSL over the sea, should keep a good look out for helicopters and fixed wing aircraft operating in support of North Sea Oil and Gas industry (Note: helicopters occasionally operate above this altitude). Anglia Radar is responsible for providing ATS within the Southern North Sea Offshore Safety Area (OSA) and Aberdeen Radar for providing ATS within the Northern North Sea Offshore Safety Area (OSA). Pilots intending to operate in both areas are encouraged to **contact Aberdeen ATC (01224 727160) prior to departure**. Charts depicting the areas can be found in the UK AIP ENR 6 (6-25 and 6-26).

18. **IFF Off Operations.** There is potential that some sorties may be conducted with IFF Off, 17<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> Mar 1100-1300 UTC, SFC-2000ft AMSL – this activity will be promulgated via NOTAM and relevant agencies will be contacted prior to planned sorties. See Chart 2 for planned airspace.

19. **Dates/Times.** The planned COMAO (Composite Air Operations) flying windows are listed in the table below – All times UTC.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Airspace Booking Times</u>	<u>Planned Flight Times</u>	<u>Airspace</u>
17 Mar	10:00 – 13:30Z	11:00 – 13:00Z	EGD514 (09:00-14:30Z), TRAs 5, 6, 7A, 7B, LFAs 11,12,13,16,17,20
18 Mar	10:00 – 13:30Z	11:00 – 13:00Z	EGD514 (09:00-14:30Z), TRAs 5, 6, 7A, 7B, LFAs 11,12,13,16,17,20
19 Mar	10:00 – 13:30Z	11:00 – 13:00Z	EGD514 (09:00-14:30Z), TRAs 5, 6, 7A, 7B, LFAs 11,12,13,16,17,20
20 Mar	10:00 – 13:30Z	11:00 – 13:00Z	EGD514 (09:00-14:30Z), TRAs 5, 6, 7A, 7B, LFAs 11,12,13,16,17,20
23 Mar	10:00 – 13:30Z	11:00 – 13:00Z	EGD514 (09:00-14:30Z), TRAs 5, 6, 7A, 7B, LFAs 11,12,13,16,17,20
24 Mar	10:00 – 13:30Z	11:00 – 13:00Z	EGD514 (09:00-14:30Z), TRAs 5, 6, 7A, 7B, LFAs 11,12,13,16,17,20
25 Mar	10:00 – 13:30Z	11:00 – 13:00Z	EGD514 (09:00-14:30Z), TRAs 5, 6, 7A, 7B, LFAs 11,12,13,16,17,20
26 Mar	10:00 – 13:30Z	11:00 – 13:00Z	EGD514 (09:00-14:30Z), TRAs 5, 6, 7A, 7B, LFAs 11,12,13,16,17,20
27 Mar	10:00 – 13:30Z	11:00 – 13:00Z	EGD514 (09:00-14:30Z), TRAs 5, 6, 7A, 7B, LFAs 11,12,13,16,17,20

20. **Notification.** The sponsor is to notify the agencies listed on page one of this ACN at least 24 hours prior to undertaking the task. In addition, the pilot is to contact the appropriate agencies at least 2 hours prior to departure to confirm final details and availability of an ATS, unless a separate agreement is made.

21. **Priority.** This exercise has been categorised as CAT Z, (CAP 493 – Section 1, Ch4, Para 10c refers,) and attracts no priority.

22. **SSR Allocation.** In addition to using the existing ATM allocation for CRC Boulmer and Swanwick Mil, the following M3 codes have been temporarily allocated to the exercise for the duration:

- a. 1500 – 1577 & 2400 – 2477 Allocated by BM Force HQ

23. As no special agreement has been made with the CAA, the **Mode A codes and associated Mode C pressure-altitude reporting data must be considered unvalidated and unverified.**

24. **Aircraft Types.** The following aircraft types are expected to take part in the exercise:

- |    |          |                      |
|----|----------|----------------------|
| a. | Fast Jet | F16C, L159E, Typhoon |
| b. | EW/ISR   | FA20, E3A, E3G       |
| c. | AAR      | Voyager, MRTT        |
| d. | TacAT    | A400M                |
| e. | RW       | CH47, Wildcat        |
| f. | Support  | Grob 115E Tutor T1   |

25. **Air Traffic Service (ATS) Provision – Controlled Airspace (CAS).** Access to controlled airspace is subject to the prevailing traffic situation and controller workload. The pilot is responsible for obtaining a clearance to enter controlled airspace prior to penetration.

26. Exercise traffic **shall** ensure that they have enough fuel to complete their transits without the need to transit Aerodrome CTR's and CTAs. **Military aircrew should be aware that the term "Fuel Priority" is not a civilian term, "Minimum Fuel" is the correct terminology (CAP413), however, this does not provide priority to pilots of aircraft that have made this declaration.** If fuel reserve becomes a critical issue, crews **shall** declare an emergency using the appropriate **PAN PAN** or **MAYDAY** prefix. Civilian ATC agencies will then facilitate transit to the closest suitable runway.

27. **ATS Provision – Outside CAS.** The exercise area is within the coverage of the following units:

- |    |                           |                           |               |
|----|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| a. | Aberdeen                  | 119.055 MHz               | 01224 727160  |
| b. | Anglia Radar <sup>1</sup> | 125.275 MHz / 128.925 MHz | 01224 727160  |
| c. | Coningsby                 | 119.205 MHz               | 01526 347443  |
| d. | Humberside                | 119.130 MHz               | 01652 682022  |
| e. | Leeming                   | 133.380 MHz               | 01677 457210  |
| f. | Leuchars                  | 126.505 MHz               | 01334 848287  |
| g. | Newcastle                 | 124.380 MHz               | 0191 214 8130 |
| h. | Teesside                  | 118.855 MHz               | 01325 331020  |

28. Availability of an ATS from a unit is not guaranteed, is subject to controller availability, unit workload and possible reduced hours of operations. Amendments to the published hours of availability, as listed in the UK AIP ENR 1.6 – Para 4.1, AD2 or UK Military AIP, shall be notified via NOTAM. **Exercise participants who plan to seek an ATS from an Airfield ATC Unit, (which is not part of the departure or recovery plan,) should contact the appropriate Unit in advance to discuss their requirements and confirm availability (in principle) of an ATS.** Ingress and egress transits shall be planned to be conducted using military ATC agencies and aircraft should not leave EGD514 until 2-way communications with ATC has been established.

29. **ATS Provision above FL100.** This service is available to all aircraft flying outside Controlled Airspace in the UK FIRs between FL 100 and FL 190, and within active TRAs and is subject to Unit capacity. The Unit providing this service together with their boundaries are depicted within the UK AIP on the chart ENR 6-12. ENR 1.6 (4.2) lists their hours of operation, the RTF operating frequency on which this service is normally provided and a telephone number for pre-flight contact. A FPL should be filed and include the following addresses:

- |    |          |                       |
|----|----------|-----------------------|
| a. | EGZYOATT | Swanwick Mil (78 Sqn) |
|----|----------|-----------------------|

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<sup>1</sup> Anglia Radar operate with both frequencies cross-coupled in order to provide good low-level coverage across the sector.

30. Amendments to the published hours of availability, as listed in the UK AIP ENR 1.6 – Para 4.2, shall be notified via NOTAM.
31. The sponsor is responsible for booking OOH ATS with Swanwick Mil in advance of the exercise.
32. **Jamming.** Jamming may take place on designated military communications and radars throughout the operating period and is subject to approval by the Joint Spectrum Authority following the submission of a Jamming Safety Case. It is expected that selected frequencies may be severely affected which could lead to loss of R/T contact. **Control agencies which experience jamming of an unacceptable level should contact the Distress & Diversion (D&D) cell at Swanwick Centre (01489 612406). D&D will coordinate the emergency cessation of jamming, and all emergency cease jamming calls shall be made on UHF Guard (243.000 MHz).**
33. **Airspace Requirements.** Exercise participants are responsible for submitting their airspace and low flying bookings in accordance with existing regulations. The UK AMC will coordinate all SUA activations or suppressions against individual requests from participants and not this ACN.
34. Activity will take place within TRAs 005, 006, 007A and 007B, and within the lateral confines of EGD514 from SFC to FL660, including those portions of LFAs 11, 12, 13, 16 & 17. Additionally, AAR will operate within the Danger Area, on tactical towlines adjacent to the Danger Area or on existing towlines.
35. The Sponsor will make a request for an Exercise NOTAM to the CAA Airspace Regulation NLT one week prior to the start of the Exercise. A NOTAM highlighting the increased aerial activity in the exercise area and the inability to comply with the Rules of the Air (unusual aerial activity) will subsequently be issued.
36. **Airspace.** This exercise will take place within segregated and un-segregated Class C & G airspace over the North Sea parallel to the East Coast of England, and overland in Northumberland and the Scottish Borders. **Aerodrome CTRs and CTAs shall be avoided unless agreed in advance of departure.**
37. This exercise airspace incorporates **segregated** Special Use Airspace:
- EGD514
38. Additionally, it incorporates un-segregated airspace consisting of:
39. Air to Air Refuelling Areas (AARAs) including, but not limited to, AARAs 5,6 and 7.
- Class G airspace areas over the North Sea.
  - Temporary Reserved Areas (TRAs) 005, 006, 007A, 007B
  - UK Low Flying System overland North Yorkshire, Northumberland and the Scottish Borders (LFAs 11, 12, 13, 16, 17 & 20)
40. Below FL195, or FL245 when within an active TRA. Aircraft shall operate VFR at all times. Below FL195 aircraft should remain outside of CAS, unless this has been coordinated in advance of departure with the designated controlling agency and a positive clearance to enter has been given by the appropriate ATS unit. Aircraft using the UK Low Flying System are responsible for their own LF bookings.
41. Above FL195, or FL245 when within an active TRA and outside of a SUA. Aircraft shall be in receipt of a Radar Control Service (RCS). **The only ATS structures that have been restricted are those directly impacted by the activation of EGD514; military controlling agencies are wholly responsible for the avoidance of all GAT and maintenance of standard separation.**
42. In all instances, aircraft and controlling agencies should avoid operating in the vicinity of non-exercise airfields.
43. **Air-to-Air Refuelling Areas (AARAs).** A number of AARAs will be utilised throughout this exercise and are to be booked through normal procedures by individual operators. Due to the impact to the civil network, AAR should be planned to take place below FL240, higher may be



negotiated tactically through the Swanwick Mil Ex Co-ord. At the time of publication, overland AAR has not been notified as authorised. Aircraft will establish within their tasked operating areas between 10:00 - 13:30 UTC.

44. **AEW/ISR Aircraft.** ISR assets may operate within Orbit Areas 3, 5 or 13. Additionally they may operate tactically within the confines of EGD514 in a block pre-notified to Swanwick Mil. Assets will establish within their tasked operating areas between 10:00 - 13:30 UTC. Responsibility for booking AEW orbit areas is to be completed by the AEW Sqn Ops prior to launch and should inform the Swanwick Mil Ex Co-ord at D-1 which orbit areas are planned to be used.

45. **Special Use Airspace (SUAs).** Access to any SUA is subject to range requirements and access is not guaranteed. The sponsor is to engage with the SUA Authority at the earliest opportunity to coordinate access, noting that access may only be possible outside notified operating hours.

46. **Non-SSR Gliding Areas.** The sponsor should exercise caution when operating in these areas, as gliders without transponders may be encountered up to FL195. For info see the UK AIP: *ENR 1.1 (Para 1.12), ENR 5.2 (NSGA) and ENR6-63.*

47. **Temporary Reserved Areas (TRA).** The sponsor is responsible for complying with the requirements for access to any TRA iaw the UK AIP – ENR 1.1 (Para 5.1.5).

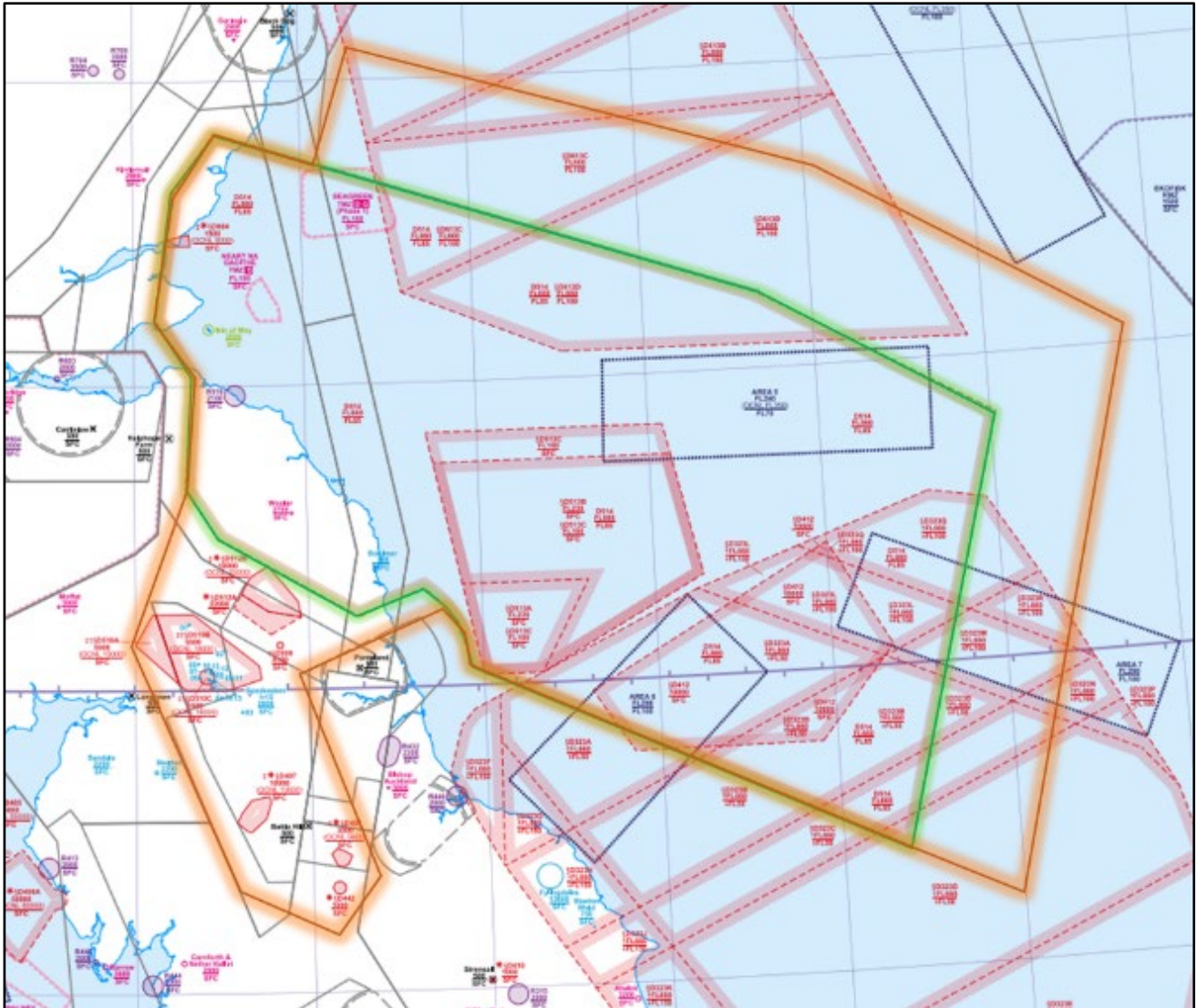
48. **Gas Venting Sites (GVS).** No GVS have been suppressed for this activity.

## SECTION 3

### Area of Operation

49. A chart highlighting the area of operation is shown below. This is for illustrative purposes only and not for operational planning. This is indicative as unsegregated activity such as tac towlines may take place above FL85 within the lateral confines of the orange area.

**Chart 1 – Overview of Exercise Area**  
**EGD514 (Green) & Operating Area (Orange)**  
*SFC to FL85 (Class G Unsegregated) & FL85-FL660 Segregated*



### Chart 2 – Potential IFF Off Operating Area

