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**THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY
(NAVIGATION SERVICES CHARGES)
SPECIFICATION 2026**

Publication Date: 1 January 2026

Taking Effect on: 1 January 2026

TRANSPORT ACT 2000

CHARGES FOR AIR SERVICES

SPECIFICATION BY THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY (NAVIGATION SERVICES CHARGES) SPECIFICATION 2026

TAKING EFFECT ON 1st JANUARY 2026

The Civil Aviation Authority (“CAA”), in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 73, 74 and 75 of the Transport Act 2000 **(a)**, hereby makes the following Specification:

Citation and commencement

1. This Specification may be cited as the Civil Aviation Authority (Navigation Services Charges) Specification 2026 and shall take effect on 1st January 2026.

Revocation

2. The Civil Aviation Authority (Navigation Services Charges) Specification 2025, which took effect on 1st January 2025, is revoked.

Interpretation

3. (1) In this Specification –

“NERL” means NATS (En Route) plc, a company incorporated in England and Wales with number 4129273 whose registered office is at 4000 Parkway, Whiteley, Fareham, Hants PO15 7FL;

The terms “United Kingdom Air Pilot” and “UK AIP” are used interchangeably and both mean the document titled “UK Aeronautical Information Publication” in force at the date of making this Specification and published under the authority of the CAA.

(2) Unless otherwise defined in this Specification and unless the context otherwise requires, expressions used in this Specification shall have the same respective meanings as in the Transport Act 2000 and the Air Navigation Order 2016 **(b)**.

Charges for London Approach services

4. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Specification, the operator of every aircraft for which chargeable air services are provided by NERL in connection with an approach to any of London-Heathrow, London-Gatwick, London-Stansted, London-City and London-Luton aerodromes (whether or not the services are actually used or could be used with the equipment installed in the aircraft), shall pay to NERL a charge calculated according to the following formula:

$$r = TSU \times U$$

where *r* is the charge for the flight,

TSU is the terminal service unit relating to that flight, and

U is the unit rate of £19.48.

- (2) For the purposes of paragraph 4(1) the terminal service unit relating to a flight shall be equal to the weight factor for the aircraft concerned. The weight factor, expressed as a figure taken to two decimal places, shall be the quotient, obtained by dividing by fifty the number of metric tons in the highest maximum certified take-off weight of the aircraft, to the power of 0.7.
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph 4(2) the highest maximum certified take-off weight of the aircraft is the maximum certified take-off weight of the aircraft as shown in the Aircraft Flight Manual or equivalent document, converted into metric tons where appropriate. Where an aircraft has multiple certified maximum take-off weights, the highest one shall be used. Where the weight factor is unknown, the weight factor shall be calculated by taking the weight of the heaviest aircraft of the same type known to exist.

Charges for services provided in the Shanwick Oceanic Control Area

5. Subject to the provisions of this Specification, the operator of every aircraft (whether or not registered in the United Kingdom) that flies within the Atlantic (formerly NAT) area of the Shanwick Oceanic Control Area, as described in the United Kingdom Air Pilot on the date this Specification takes effect, and in respect of which a flight plan is communicated to the appropriate air traffic control unit in relation to its flight in that Area shall pay to NERL, for the chargeable air services made available by it in relation to that flight, a charge of £60.07 (the Atlantic Core charge).
6. Subject to paragraph 7, the operator of every aircraft (whether or not registered in the United Kingdom) that flies within the Tango area of the Shanwick Oceanic Control Area, as described in the United Kingdom Air Pilot on the date this Specification takes effect, and in respect of which a flight plan is communicated to the appropriate air traffic control unit in relation to its flight in that Area shall pay to NERL, for the chargeable air services made available by it in relation to that flight, a charge of £59.73 per flight (the Tango Core charge). Oceanic Tango flights are defined as flights operating along the length of ATS routes T9 and T290, as defined and promulgated in the UK AIP, within a defined volume of airspace bounded by coordinates 4500N 01000W, 4500N 00845W, 4834N 00845W, 4841N 01000W, 4500N 01000W.
7. Flights that cross both the Atlantic and Tango areas will pay only the Atlantic Core charge.

Charges for ADS-B data

8. The operator of every aircraft (whether or not registered in the United Kingdom) that flies across the Atlantic (formerly NAT) area shall pay to NERL an ADS-B data charge ("the Atlantic data charge") of £39.70 per flight, provided that at the time of the flight the ADS-B service is fully available.

9. Subject to paragraph 10, the operator of every aircraft (whether or not registered in the United Kingdom) that flies across the Tango area shall pay to NERL an ADS-B data charge of £0.81 per flight provided that at the time of the flight the ADS-B service is fully available. Oceanic Tango flights are defined as flights operating along the length of ATS routes T9 and T290, as defined and promulgated in the UK AIP, within a defined volume of airspace bounded by coordinates 4500N 01000W, 4500N 00845W, 4834N 00845W, 4841N 01000W, 4500N 01000W.
10. Flights that cross both the Atlantic and Tango areas will pay only the Atlantic ADS-B data charge.
11. For the purposes of this Specification, the ADS-B service is fully available as certified by NERL's Board in December 2019, which means that NERL is providing an Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast-based Oceanic En route Air Traffic Control Service to at least 99% of all users of the En route (Oceanic) Area that have the correct and functioning equipment, regulatory approval and plan to use it.

Charges for services provided for North Sea helicopters

12. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Specification, the operator of every helicopter (whether or not registered in the United Kingdom) which flies within the area specified in sub-paragraph (2) of this paragraph while on a flight from any place in the United Kingdom to a vessel or an off-shore installation within the said area shall pay to NERL, for the chargeable air services made available by it in relation to that flight, a charge of £655.00 (the "Northern NS Area Charge").
- (2) The area referred to in sub-paragraph (1) of this paragraph is the area bounded by straight lines joining successively the following points –

6300N 00500W; 632833N 000000EW; thence south along the UK Median Line to 5500N 00302E; 5500N 00100W; 5600N 00230W; 5740N 00230W; 5740N 00400W; 5830N 00400W; 5830N 00500W; 6300N 00500W (the "Northern North Sea Area").
- (3) Subject to the provisions of this Specification, the operator of every helicopter (whether or not registered in the United Kingdom) which flies within the area specified in sub-paragraph (4) of this paragraph while on a flight from any place in the United Kingdom to a vessel or an off-shore installation within the said area shall pay to NERL, for the chargeable air services made available by it in relation to that flight, a charge of £346.00 (the "Southern NS Area Charge").
- (4) The area referred to in sub-paragraph (3) of this paragraph is the area bounded by straight lines joining successively the following points –

5500N 00100W; 5500N 00300E; 5423N 00245E; 5256N 00309E; 5230N 00247E; 5226N 00137E; 5238N 00140E; 5251N 00124E; 5319N 00010E; 5500N 00100W (the "Southern North Sea Area").
- (5) For the avoidance of doubt and subject to the provisions of this Specification, the operator of every helicopter (whether or not registered in the United Kingdom) which flies within both the Northern North Sea Area and the Southern North Sea Area (each a "Specified Area" and together the "Specified Areas") while on a flight from any place in the United Kingdom to a vessel or an off-shore installation within one or both of the Specified Areas shall pay to NERL, for the chargeable air services made available by it in relation to that flight, both the Northern NS Area Charge and the Southern NS Area Charge.

Value Added Tax charge

13. For the purpose of reimbursing NERL in respect of value added tax payable on the provision of chargeable air services for which a charge is payable pursuant to this Specification there shall be charged an additional charge equal to the amount of such tax and the incidence of the first mentioned charge shall determine the incidence of the additional charge.

Circumstances in which charges are payable by the owner

14. If NERL is unable, after taking reasonable steps, to ascertain who is the operator, it may give notice to the owner of the aircraft that it will treat him as the operator for the purposes of this Specification until he establishes to the reasonable satisfaction of NERL that some other person is the operator; and from the time when the notice is given NERL shall be entitled, for so long as the owner is unable to establish as aforesaid that some other person is the operator, to treat the owner as if he were the operator, and for that purpose the provisions of this Specification (other than this paragraph) shall apply to the owner as if he were the operator.

By Order of the Civil Aviation Authority, 15 December 2025

J Spence, Secretary and General Counsel, Civil Aviation Authority, Aviation House, Beehive Ringroad, Crawley West Sussex RH6 0YR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Specification)

1. This Specification revokes and replaces the Civil Aviation Authority (Navigation Services Charges) Specification 2025.
2. This Specification sets out the charges payable in connection with London Approach services provided by NATS (En Route) Plc (“NERL”) in respect of five London airports: Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted, City, Luton.
3. Charges in connection with such services are set at £19.48 for each terminal service unit (paragraph 4(1)).
4. The core charge payable to NERL by the operator of an aircraft which flies within the Shanwick Oceanic Control Area and in respect of which a flight plan is communicated to the appropriate air traffic control unit is £60.07 for the Atlantic area and £59.73 for the Tango area. Flights that cross both the Atlantic and Tango areas will pay only the Atlantic Core charge (paragraphs 5 to 7).
5. The Oceanic ADS-B data charge is £39.70 per flight for crossings in the Atlantic area and £0.81 per flight for crossings in the Tango area. Flights that cross both the Atlantic and Tango areas will pay only the Atlantic charge (paragraphs 8 to 11).
6. The charge payable to NERL by the operator of a helicopter which flies within the Northern North Sea area while on a flight from any place in the United Kingdom to a vessel or an offshore installation within the area of the Northern North Sea described in paragraph 12(2) is £655 (paragraph 12(1)).
7. The charge payable to NERL by the operator of a helicopter which flies within the Southern North Sea area while on a flight from any place in the United Kingdom to a vessel or an offshore installation within the area of the Southern North Sea described in paragraph 12(4) is £346 (paragraph 12(3)).
8. The charge payable to NERL by the operator of a helicopter which flies within the Northern North Sea Area and Southern North Sea Area on a flight from any place in the United Kingdom to a vessel or an offshore installation within the Northern North Sea Area described in paragraph 12(2) and/or the Southern North Sea Area described in paragraph 12(4) is both £655 (paragraph 12(1)) and £346 (paragraph 12(3)).

(a) 2000 c.38.

(b) S.I. 2016/765.