19 April 2018
Reference: F0003663

Dear

I am writing in respect of your recent request of 31 March 2018, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Your request:

‘Please supply specific details of any existing legislation or new rulings or discussions which would prevent a UK Permit to Fly for Ferry being issued for an ex-military Avro Vulcan Bmk 2 within the UK.

Please confirm (without details) whether any discussion with any current operator of the above aircraft has taken place.

Please indicate whether the CAA would legally allow such a flight.’

Our response:

Having considered your request in line with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), we are able to provide the information below.

1. Please supply specific details of any existing legislation or new rulings or discussions which would prevent a UK Permit to Fly for Ferry being issued for an ex-military Avro Vulcan Bmk 2 within the UK.

The over-arching legislation for eligibility for a Permit to Fly is the Air Navigation Order, currently the ANO 2016. The changes made for the 2016 edition do not affect the Articles concerning a Permit to Fly.

Requirements for the issue of a Permit to Fly, including for ferry flights, are contained within CAP 553 BCAR Section A, specifically Section A3-7. This was updated in 2017, however this was for editorial purposes such as revised ANO references. The technical requirements are unchanged for a number of years from when G-VLCN was assessed and granted a Permit to Fly.
If the aircraft continues to meet the requirements of CAP 553 including those related to Organisation Approvals then it is eligible for a Permit to Fly.

2. Please confirm (without details) whether any discussion with any current operator of the above aircraft has taken place.

Please note that AVRO Vulcan G-VLCN (ex-XH558) was de-registered on 19-Aug-2017 as “Permanently Withdrawn From Use”. Therefore, there is no current operator to discuss such a matter with.

3. Please indicate whether the CAA would legally allow such a flight.

As above, if the aircraft meets the requirements then it is eligible for a Permit to Fly.

If you are not satisfied with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you should approach the CAA in writing at:-

Caroline Chalk  
Head of External Information Services  
Civil Aviation Authority  
Aviation House  
Gatwick Airport South  
Gatwick  
RH6 0YR

caroline.chalk@caa.co.uk

The CAA has a formal internal review process for dealing with appeals or complaints in connection with Freedom of Information requests. The key steps in this process are set in the attachment.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under Section 50 of the FOIA to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner at:-

Information Commissioner’s Office  
FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
SK9 5AF  
https://ico.org.uk/concerns/

If you wish to request further information from the CAA, please use the form on the CAA website at http://publicapps.caa.co.uk/modalapplication.aspx?appid=24.

Yours sincerely

Rhiannan Stephen  
Information Rights Officer
The original case to which the appeal or complaint relates is identified and the case file is made available;

The appeal or complaint is allocated to an Appeal Manager, the appeal is acknowledged and the details of the Appeal Manager are provided to the applicant;

The Appeal Manager reviews the case to understand the nature of the appeal or complaint, reviews the actions and decisions taken in connection with the original case and takes account of any new information that may have been received. This will typically require contact with those persons involved in the original case and consultation with the CAA Legal Department;

The Appeal Manager concludes the review and, after consultation with those involved with the case, and with the CAA Legal Department, agrees on the course of action to be taken;

The Appeal Manager prepares the necessary response and collates any information to be provided to the applicant;

The response and any necessary information is sent to the applicant, together with information about further rights of appeal to the Information Commissioners Office, including full contact details.