

[REDACTED]

15 August 2018
Reference: F0003815

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing in respect of your request of 19 July 2018, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). 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. *What procedure do you require UK airports security staff to follow when passengers have passed through security, purchased liquids 'airside', then had to return to 'landside' because of a flight cancellation and, having rebooked, must pass through security again.*

All passengers must be screened according to regulation before entering the restricted area of an airport, commonly referred to as 'airside'. This applies even if you have recently been screened but have had to leave the restricted area for any reason. The requirement comes from Regulation (EC) 300/2008, which states:

"4.1. Screening of passengers and cabin baggage

1. All originating, transfer and transit passengers and their cabin baggage shall be screened in order to prevent prohibited articles from being introduced into security restricted areas and on board an aircraft."

Regarding the screening of liquid items specifically, Regulation (EC) 2017/815 states:

"4.1.3.1 – LAGs carried by passengers may be exempted from screening with LEDS equipment upon entry to the SRA in the following cases:

- (a) if the LAGs are in individual containers with a capacity not greater than 100 millimetres or equivalent in one transparent resealable plastic bag of a capacity not exceeding 1 litre, whereby the content of the plastic bag fit comfortably and the bag is completely closed;
- (b) if the LAG is sealed in a dedicated STEB upon purchase locally at the airport airside."

All other liquid items must be screened with LEDS.

Civil Aviation Authority

Aviation House Gatwick Airport South Gatwick RH6 0YR. www.caa.co.uk

Telephone: 01293 768512. foi.requests@caa.co.uk

The acronyms contained in this extract refer to -

LAGs - Liquids, Aerosols and Gels
LEDS – Liquid Explosive Detection Systems
SRA – Security Restricted Area
STEB - Security tamper-evident bag

2. *What procedure do you require UK airports to follow to inform passengers in advance of what will happen to liquids bought in 'airside' when they go through security for a second time for this reason.*

There are no regulatory requirements on airports to inform passengers in advance of what will happen to liquids carried if a passenger leaves the restricted area for any reason.

3. *What procedure do you require UK airports security staff to follow if a passenger, when asked if they consent to a pat-down after screening replies 'no'.*

The CAA does not regulate procedures for passengers specifically not giving their consent to a 'pat down' (referred to as a hand search in regulation). If a passenger refuses to be screened by a security officer and this screening involves a hand search, the airport will refuse access to the restricted area. Regulation (EC) 300/2008 4.1.1. refers, as per the response to question 1 above.

4. *What procedure do you require UK airports security to follow in informing passengers in advance of the consequences of refusal.*

Airport authorities are not required by regulation to inform passengers in advance of the consequences for refusing a hand search; this will be covered in local procedures.

5. *What procedure do you require UK airports security staff to follow if a passenger having initially refused consent changes their reply to 'yes'. Specifically can such a passenger pass through screening again or is the only option permitted to security staff the carrying out of a more invasive pat-down.*

This is not a regulated area, and local procedures will apply.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Stevens'.

Mark Stevens
External Response Manager

CAA INTERNAL REVIEW & COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

- 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.