

[REDACTED]

Date: 22 August 2023
Reference: F0006379

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request of 31 July 2023, for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). For reference your original enquiry was as follows:

Can the CAA confirm that, in accordance with CAP1991, when was the last time a CAA review of airspace classification conducted from the lower airspace around the Oxford AIAA.

The size and frequency of large IFR business jets going in and out of Oxford airport and the larger military jets, going in and out of Brize Norton has increased over the past 5 years.

This increase, has (arguably) significantly changed the safety assessment of Class G airspace, within which these aircraft fly, alongside GA VFR traffic.

Should this have not triggered a CAA airspace classification review, rather than leave individuals airports to scrap over their own CAP1616 ambitions.

Your request has been considered in line with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

In accordance with CAP1991, the airspace usage around and within the Oxford AIAA was last reviewed as part of the CAA's examination of the Cotswold region in 2021/2022.

The findings of this review are detailed in our report published on 15 July 2022, CAP2359, which considered consultation responses from airspace users and safety data. Both Oxford and Brize Norton were engaged in this process.

Given that our review of the Cotswold region was only completed last year, and we have several other regions of the UK pending review, there are no immediate plans to revisit this region in the near future.

Civil Aviation Authority

Aviation House, Beehive Ring Road, Crawley, West Sussex RH6 0YR. www.caa.co.uk

Email: foi.requests@caa.co.uk

However, if you possess any further information that may be helpful for future reviews, please send it to airspace.classification@caa.co.uk. Additionally, we encourage airspace users to participate in the Regional Airspace User Working Group (RAUWG) for the Brize Norton/Oxford area, which meets biannually and offers a collaborative platform to discuss and improve airspace concerns.

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:

FOI.Requests@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 out in the attachment. A request for an internal review should be submitted within 40 working days of the date of this letter.

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

Freedom of Information Team
Information Rights Specialist

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.