

2020 No. 144

CIVIL AVIATION

The Air Navigation (Restriction of Flying) (Commonwealth Day) Regulations 2020

Made - - - - *12th February 2020*

Coming into force - - *9th March 2020*

The Secretary of State has decided that it is in the public interest to restrict flying in the vicinity of Westminster Abbey, central London, by reason of the celebration of the Commonwealth of Nations.

The Secretary of State makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by article 239 of the Air Navigation Order 2016^(a).

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Air Navigation (Restriction of Flying) (Commonwealth Day) Regulations 2020 and come into force on 9th March 2020.

Interpretation

2. In regulation 3(1) the times referred to are Co-ordinated Universal Time^(b).

Restricted airspace

3.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), between 1200 hours and 1800 hours on 9th March 2020, no aircraft is to fly below 2,500 feet above mean sea level within the area bounded by a circle having a radius of 1 nautical mile whose centre is 512957N 0000738W.

(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to any aircraft—

- (a) operated by or on behalf of—
 - (i) the National Police Air Service,
 - (ii) the Helicopter Emergency Medical Services, or
 - (iii) the Maritime and Coastguard Agency,
- (b) making an approach to Runway 09 at London City Airport whilst under the control of London City Airport Air Traffic Control or London Terminal Control Swanwick,
- (c) making an approach to Runway 27L/R at Heathrow Airport whilst under the control of Heathrow Airport Air Traffic Control or London Terminal Control Swanwick, or
- (d) flying in accordance with the permission of the Metropolitan Police Service.

^(a) S.I. 2016/765, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

^(b) In these Regulations, Co-ordinated Universal Time (UTC) is the same as Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Transport

12th February 2020

David J Best

Grade 7

Department for Transport

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations impose restrictions on flying in the airspace above central London during the Commonwealth Day Service at Westminster Abbey that is scheduled to take place there on 9th March 2020. In view of the high visibility of this event and the presence of members of the Royal Family, and other VIPs, the Civil Aviation Authority and the Department for Transport agree that flying should be restricted in the vicinity of the event for reasons of public safety and security.

In relation to regulation 3, the term ‘aircraft’ includes aircraft as classified by Part 1 of Schedule 4 to the Air Navigation Order 2016. It also includes, by virtue of article 23 of that Order, any small balloon, any kite weighing not more than two kilograms, any small unmanned aircraft and any parachute including a parascending parachute.

The times mentioned in regulation 3(1) are Co-ordinated Universal Time (UTC), which for the purpose of these Regulations is the same as Greenwich Mean Time.

In relation to the permission mentioned in regulation 3(2)(d), the Metropolitan Police Service may be contacted as notified in the Aeronautical Information Publication.

Full details of the Statutory Instrument will be promulgated by Aeronautical Information Circular (AIC) and Notice To Airmen (NOTAM).

The point of contact in the Civil Aviation Authority is Mr C W Scott, Principal Airspace Regulator, Safety and Airspace Regulation Group, on telephone number 03301 382997.