
**Application for amendment to Christchurch
control zone and terminal control area
boundaries**

Airspace user consultation

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Introduction

Controlled airspace is designated in areas where there is a need for an air traffic control service to be provided for the safety and efficiency of aircraft operations and is intended to be as small as practicable to safely protect IFR routes and procedures.

The implementation of new performance based navigation (PBN) procedures, primarily utilising satellite navigation technologies, has required amendment to controlled airspace boundaries to ensure that IFR aircraft continue to be contained within controlled airspace where the Director has deemed it necessary.

The provider of air traffic services in New Zealand, Airways Corporation of New Zealand Ltd (Airways), is progressively introducing new PBN instrument procedures as part of their PBN Implementation Plan.

Civil aviation rule 71.11 requires the Director to review each current airspace designation and classification every 5 years to verify the continuing need for the airspace. The CAA 2015-2018 Airspace Review document (<http://www.caa.govt.nz/airspace/airspace-review/#Plan>) details the current review process which is being undertaken on a regional basis, and aligned where possible with the Airways' PBN Implementation Plan.

Background

At the three major international airports – Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch – there was no specific date set for PBN implementation and new procedures would be introduced on a rolling basis.

Until recently at Christchurch airport, due to environmental constraints, there has only been instrument procedures available for the main runways 02/20. Satellite-based navigation has enabled new procedures to be designed for the cross runways 11/29.

The existing Christchurch control zone was designed for containment of instrument approaches onto runways 02/20. With new procedures for runways 11/29, the eastern and western boundaries require amending to contain the new procedures.

Airways has also reviewed all of the control zone dimensions to align with the Part 71 rule requirements for controlled airspace to be as small as practicable to protect the flight paths of IFR aircraft.

Airways' proposal

To contain the new instrument approaches to runways 11/29 at Christchurch, Airways submitted a petition late December 2016 to amend the Christchurch control zone and associated airspace as follows:

1. amend the Christchurch control zone (CH CTR/C NZA855) and sectors; and

2. amend Christchurch control areas (CH CTA/C) NZA841 (LL 1500 ft), NZA844 (LL 2500 ft) and NZA845 (LL 3500 ft); and
3. amend the boundary of Transit Lane NZT858 Eyrewell; and
4. delete four visual reporting points (VRP) and add six new VRP; and
5. delete City Sector.

Due to the size of the petition, it is not practical to summarise the information contained in this document. Instead, please refer to the copy of Airways' petition which is available on the Airspace Review website at the following link:

<http://www.caa.govt.nz/airspace/airspace-review/>.

Overall, the size of the Christchurch control zone is reduced, and terminal control areas extended over the airspace within the old control zone boundaries.

One of the main changes which would affect VFR users of the airspace is the amendment to the existing NZT858 Eyrewell VFR transit lane. Most of the transit lane would be outside controlled airspace, but the section of the Waimakariri River needs to be removed. This is to provide containment for the new RNAV RWY 11 approach.

Consultation

Civil Aviation Rule 71.9 requires the Director to consult with affected persons, organisations and representative groups within the aviation industry before making a designation or classification of airspace.

The Director invites feedback in regard to the proposed controlled airspace changes.

This document will be sent directly to the organisations listed below. It would be appreciated if you would kindly forward the document to your members for consideration and comment.

Aerodrome operators (charted aerodromes/heliports shown on VNC D2 only)

- Burwood Hospital heliport (Canterbury Health Ltd)
- Christchurch aerodrome (Christchurch International Airport Ltd)
- Christchurch Hospital heliport (Canterbury Health Ltd)
- Forest Field (P A Collings)
- Rangiora (Waimakariri District Council)
- West Melton (Canterbury Aero Club (Inc))

Operators, Organisations and User Groups

- Air Freight NZ Ltd
- Air New Zealand Group – includes Mount Cook and Air Nelson

- Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association
- Airways Corporation of New Zealand
- Airwork Flight Operations
- Balloon Association of New Zealand
- Canterbury Aero Club (Inc)/International Aviation Academy of New Zealand
- Canterbury Airspace User Group
- Garden City Helicopters
- Gliding New Zealand
- Jet Connect
- Jetstar Airways Ltd
- Model Flying New Zealand
- New Zealand Airline Pilots Association
- New Zealand Aviation Federation
- New Zealand Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association
- New Zealand Helicopter Association
- New Zealand Parachute Federation
- New Zealand Parachute Industry Association
- Qantas Airways Ltd
- Recreational Aircraft Association of New Zealand
- Royal New Zealand Air Force
- Sport Aircraft Association New Zealand
- Sport Aviation Corp
- Virgin Australia

This document is also available on the CAA website at the following link:

<http://www.caa.govt.nz/airspace/airspace-review/>

Notifications will be sent to CAA email notification subscribers to Airspace Notifications – Briefing Areas 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10.

If there are any further questions regarding the review process, please contact Paula Moore – contact details below.

Submissions

Prior to making a designation or classification of airspace, Civil Aviation Rule 71.9 requires the Director to consult with all parties that may be affected within the aviation industry.

This document forms part of the consultation process. Submissions are sought from any interested person, organisation or representative group to provide further information relevant to this proposal.

Submissions are accepted either electronically or via mail.

Please address submissions to:

Group Executive Officer
Aviation Infrastructure and Personnel
Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand
PO Box 3555
Wellington 6140

Fax: 04 569 2024

Email: dianne.parker@caa.govt.nz

Reference – 2017 Christchurch control zone amendment.

Closing date for submissions is **Thursday 6 April 2017**.

Further information

For further information contact:

Paula Moore
Aeronautical Services Officer – Air Traffic Services (Airspace)
Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand
P O Box 3555
Wellington 6140
Phone: (DDI) 04 560 9525
Email: paula.moore@caa.govt.nz

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