

Email response from CAA (20/09/18):

Merville

Thank you for your recent emails. Thank you too for your email to Stu Lindsey. To ensure process fairness, our general approach is to limit, where appropriate, exchanges between stakeholders and members of the decision-making team. Accordingly, I am replying to you and Stu, who is a member of the decision-making team, is not.

As I'm sure you will appreciate, Edinburgh is one of a number of important projects that ERCD is working on at present. There is no reluctance on our part to engage on these issues, but we have to balance many legitimate demands on ERCD's finite resource and prioritise our work accordingly. Moreover, we need to ensure that our engagement is consistent with best administrative practice and would not prejudice any decisions to be made.

In that context, I acknowledge that we have received a number of emails and requests for information from ENAB, and a number of letters from correspondents, raising questions about noise analysis. The CAA will not pause its decision-making process to respond to the issues and questions raised in those emails, requests and letters. The proper forum for the CAA to address the substantive points raised by a number of stakeholders is in its ACP decision and it would be inappropriate to respond in any other way. My airspace regulation colleagues will, therefore, be addressing the issues raised in relation to noise data and analysis in their decision on the airspace change proposals submitted by EAL.

Whilst replying to your email, I thought you would wish to be aware that the CAA reset the call-in window for Edinburgh's ACP on 19 September alongside a number of other airports. The announcement we made yesterday is as follows:

"Following a proposal by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) the Secretary of State for Transport has confirmed the resetting of the 28 day 'call-in' window for Edinburgh Airport Limited's airspace change proposal.

This reset allows all stakeholders to consider whether Edinburgh Airport's proposed airspace change meets the call-in criteria that could lead to the Secretary of State rather than the CAA making the final decision on the proposed change.

The proposal has now been published on the websites of Edinburgh Airport and the CAA and the 'call in' request period will be open until 17:00 on 17 October 2018. Information about the call-in criteria and the process to follow to request a call-in is available [here](#)

This goes beyond the current requirements of the CAP 725 process, under which this proposal is being assessed. We believe this allows stakeholders to make an informed decision when considering a request for a call in.

Today's update does not reflect any views on Edinburgh Airport's proposal, or the process it has undertaken. The CAA is taking this step to meet the appropriate levels of transparency required for the new call-in process. The CAA is taking the same approach with a number of other airports currently undertaking airspace change proposals under CAP 725.

This action has no impact on the timeline for our regulatory decision making process.

Separately, the CAA confirmed that it has received correspondence from a number of parties raising questions about the noise analysis used for the Edinburgh airspace change proposal. We are looking at the questions and points raised and will respond once we have completed our assessment.”

For more information, please go to the Edinburgh SIDS and STATS section at:  
[https://www.caa.co.uk/Commercial-industry/Airspace/Airspace-change/Decisions/FASI\(N\)/](https://www.caa.co.uk/Commercial-industry/Airspace/Airspace-change/Decisions/FASI(N)/)

Best regards

Tim

Tim Johnson

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Civil Aviation Authority