

11th August 2025
ACP 2014-04

Dear Sir or Madam,

Inverness Airport Airspace Change Proposal Stakeholder Update – August 2025

The Inverness Airport Airspace Change Proposal (ACP) for the implementation of controlled airspace and Performance Based Navigation (PBN) procedures at Inverness Airport was originally anticipating a decision from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) on 25th July 2025. Unfortunately, due to delays experienced with the Ground flight validation activity caused by external third parties and outside the control of both HIAL and the CAA, the validation of the Instrument Flight Procedures has taken far longer than originally expected and the results of the ground validation activity will not be available to be reviewed by the CAA (IFP) Regulator until early September 2025. Due to these unforeseen delays, and following an update meeting that took place with the CAA on 29th July 2025, the CAA has requested that HIAL provide the CAA with an updated target AIRAC implementation for the ACP.

As has been mentioned in previous ACP updates, the Inverness ACP can only be implemented during specific AIRAC cycles, which usually fall in March, June, September and November each year, as it must align with a major National Air Traffic Services (NATS) Air Traffic System update. The HIAL ACP Project Team has also been engaged with NATS, and it has been agreed in principle that, subject to a positive decision from the CAA, the next available opportunity for implementation of the new controlled airspace will be AIRAC 3/26, which will take place on 19th March 2026. This proposed implementation date has also been discussed with the CAA during a meeting held on 29th July, and HIAL has now formally submitted a request to the CAA for implementation on this date, subject to any approval conditions being met. Should the CAA agree to a positive ACP decision and implementation on 19th March 2026, the ACP Project Team considers that there will be sufficient time for the training of controlling staff to take place in the newly acquired ATC simulator, and the Air Traffic Control Team will be able to ensure that all documentation is in place before implementation.

HIAL are extremely disappointed that the implementation of this ACP has been delayed by events out of their control and we continue to remain positive as we reach the final stages of implementation. We wish to thank all stakeholders for their support over the years in achieving our aim of implementing controlled airspace that we consider will result in a safer operating environment for all airspace users and Inverness Airport.

Further updates and information regarding this ACP can continue to be found at the following locations:

<https://www.hial.co.uk/inverness-airport/inverness-airspace-change-consultation>

<https://www.caa.co.uk/commercial-industry/airspace/airspace-change/decisions/ongoing-proposals/inverness-airport/>

Should there be any queries regarding the Inverness ACP, please do not hesitate to contact:
invernessairspace@hial.co.uk

Kind regards

The Inverness Airport ACP Project Team