

2023 No. 429

CIVIL AVIATION

The Air Navigation (Restriction of Flying) (Belfast and Hillsborough) Regulations 2023

Made - - - - 14th April 2023

Coming into force - - 16th April 2023

The Secretary of State has decided that it is necessary in the public interest to restrict the flying of unmanned aircraft in the area specified in regulation 3(1) by reason of security operations associated with events marking the 25th anniversary of the Good Friday agreement.

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) (Belfast and Hillsborough) Regulations 2023 and they come into force on 16th April 2023.

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—

- (a) 1400 hours on 16th April 2023 and 2200 hours on 16th April 2023 and between 1400 hours on 19th April 2023 and 2230 hours on 19th April 2023 no unmanned aircraft is to fly below 1,600 feet above mean sea level within the area bounded by a circle having a radius of 5 nautical miles centred at 542740N 0060505W, and
- (b) 0700 hours on 17th April 2023 and 1700 hours on 20th April 2023 no unmanned aircraft is to fly below 2,500 feet above mean sea level within the area bounded by a circle having a radius of 5 nautical miles centred at 543544N 0055548W.

(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to any unmanned aircraft flying in accordance with a permission issued by the Police Service of Northern Ireland.

(a) S.I. 2016/765, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.
(b) Co-ordinated Universal Time (UTC) is one hour behind British Summer Time (BST).

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Transport

David J Best

Grade 7

Department for Transport

14th April 2023

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations impose restrictions on the flying of unmanned aircraft in the vicinity of Belfast and Hillsborough, Northern Ireland due to security operations associated with the events marking the 25th anniversary of the Good Friday agreement.

As part of the overall security arrangements, the Civil Aviation Authority and the Department for Transport agree that it is in the public interest to restrict the flying of unmanned aircraft in the vicinity of the events for reasons of public safety and security.

The times mentioned in regulation 3(1) are Co-ordinated Universal Time (UTC) which is one hour behind British Summer Time (BST).

In relation to the permission mentioned in regulation 3(2), the Police Service of Northern Ireland may be contacted on telephone number 07801 738257.

Full details of this Statutory Instrument will be promulgated by Notice to Aviation (NOTAM).

The point of contact in the Civil Aviation Authority is Mr David Ridley, Airspace Regulator, Safety and Airspace Regulation Group, on telephone number 03301 382471.