

Airspace Modernisation Strategy Review

2021 Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Process

CAP 2175



Published by the Civil Aviation Authority, 2021

Civil Aviation Authority
Aviation House
Beehive Ring Road
Crawley
West Sussex
RH6 0YR

You can copy and use this text but please ensure you always use the most up to date version and use it in context so as not to be misleading, and credit the CAA.

First published 2021

Enquiries regarding the content of this publication should be addressed to:

airspace.modernisation@caa.co.uk

The latest version of this document is available in electronic format at: www.caa.co.uk/CAP2175

Contents

Contents	3
Background	4
AMS Review Engagement Plan	6
Requirements Gathering Sessions	7
Co-creation Workshops	7
AMS Review Panel	7
Public consultation	7
Stakeholder Engagement Process	8
Requirements Gathering Sessions	11
2040 Vision: Co-Creation Workshops	16
AMS Review Panel	18
Ongoing Communications Plan	20
Annex 1:	
AMS Review – Stakeholder Resource Requirement and Key Areas of Interest	22

Background

1. The Air Navigation Directions 2017 require the CAA to “prepare and maintain a coordinated strategy and plan for the use of all UK airspace for air navigation up to 2040, including for the modernisation of the use of such airspace.”
2. The Department for Transport (DfT) and Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), as joint Co-Sponsors of Airspace Modernisation Strategy (AMS) made a commitment in July 2020 by publishing a statement and within the CAP2016 AMS Progress Report 2020 , to review and revise the AMS.
3. Before any revisions are made by the CAA to the AMS, engagement with industry, stakeholders and the public is needed. The Air Navigation Directions also require the CAA to consult the Secretary of State in developing and maintaining the AMS.
4. We have three objectives in reviewing the AMS which are to:
 - respond to the changing context for aviation;
 - achieve an appropriate balance between upper, terminal and uncontrolled airspace;
 - achieve an appropriate balance between long-term strategy and short-term plans.
5. To revise the AMS, and taking on board feedback received from the listening sessions we held at the end of 2020 and the playback sessions held in March 2021, the CAA proposes to:
 - Work with the Department for Transport to revisit the key assumptions in the AMS, including the objective, the policy, and the context for airspace modernisation.
 - Complete the task started by the 2018 AMS by looking ahead beyond 2025 to set a vision for 2040, the timeframe given to us by the Air Navigation Directions 2017. This will include a lower airspace vision, to be integrated with the established AMS activities, and a roadmap to improve focus and delivery of relevant initiatives.
 - Confirm where initiatives set out in the AMS are still relevant, and whether any new approaches could innovate and improve delivery. We will also consider whether any new initiatives should be added and review how the CAA’s resources are organised, to improve coordination and delivery of policy and regulatory workstreams.

- Reinforce the environmental benefits and consider opportunities that may arise from contextual changes.
 - Aim to ensure that the AMS is more understandable and accessible for different stakeholder groups.
 - Run a public consultation exercise, which will include consulting the Secretary of State before confirming any revision to the AMS publicly.
6. Within this document, we propose a communications and engagement plan, to improve how we keep all stakeholders updated on relevant progress in the future, and set out how stakeholders will be engaged in developing elements of the AMS, before we consult more widely.
 7. This document has been created to provide engagement context and reference for those who have an interest in the work on revising the AMS, those who volunteered to contribute their time and expertise, and those who may not be involved in the revision process regularly.
 8. The CAA may update and modify this document, following stakeholder feedback and changes may be made to the proposed engagement method, timings or resources where appropriate.

AMS Review Engagement Plan

9. The CAA has committed to reviewing and revising the AMS, to reflect impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the aviation industry, outcomes of the UK-EU Transition and to capture requirements of emerging new stakeholders, whose needs may not have been fully developed and/or understood in the 2018 version of the Strategy.
10. Acting on stakeholder feedback, the CAA aims to ensure the revision of AMS is conducted collaboratively with regular engagement, communication and updates on the progress of work, through the means of regular updates posted on the CAA's website.
11. Before considering any changes, the CAA has held five stakeholder engagement sessions in November and December of 2020, with representation from all airspace users and community groups, to seek their feedback on existing gaps within the strategy.
12. In March this year, the CAA then held three Stakeholder Playback Sessions, to engage further and measure interest in active involvement in the redrafting of the AMS.
13. The revision plan has been set out with an aim of engaging with stakeholders ahead of the public consultation, to provide an opportunity for the stakeholders to help shape the 2040 strategic vision and technology roadmap of a modernised UK airspace.
14. The plan initially focuses on an immediate engagement with the stakeholders in May and finalising the engagement plan itself. The CAA will seek feedback from a targeted stakeholder group via email, on the appropriateness of the proposed plan and process, set out within this document.
15. The initial engagement will provide the stakeholders with an opportunity to share with the CAA any lessons learned, in the context of best practice - fit for purpose engagement, communication and strategy development processes, which can then be built into the AMS revision plan and ensure stakeholder buy-in for its outcomes.
16. For the AMS to address requirement gaps, specifically from newly emerging airspace stakeholder groups and any changing priorities of all airspace users, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the CAA is proposing an iterative process of co-creation and drafting of the 2040 vision, supported by technology roadmap, ahead of public consultation.

17. The vision and roadmap will include new areas of focus, for example, the lower airspace outside Controlled Airspace and benefits identification to the environment from modernisation. Content will be developed taking into account feedback from the stakeholder engagement.

Requirements Gathering Sessions

18. The creation of a vision will commence with the Requirements Gathering Sessions. The workshops will be designed with an aim of better understanding the stakeholders' existing needs, which may be addressed through modernisation efforts deliverable in the short term. Those will be complemented by exploring stakeholders' wants and future needs and aspirations long term, offering an opportunity throughout June and July, to help shape the future strategy in the most efficient and balanced way.

Co-creation Workshops

19. The Co-creation Workshops will be held as a next step, to bring all stakeholder groups together and analyse the results of the Requirements Gathering Sessions. Outputs will be presented and discussed in themes, focusing on addressing gaps within the existing version of the strategy and creating a 2040 vision.

AMS Review Panel

20. To further enhance the aspect of strategy co-creation, the CAA will seek to establish a panel of expert representatives, derived from all stakeholder groups. The AMS Review Panel (ARP) will assist in reviewing outputs that inform the revision of the AMS, gathered from the Requirements Sessions and Co-Creation Workshops. In addition, the ARP will have an active role in the iterative development of the AMS, by providing periodical advice, guidance and feedback to the CAA on the elements of the draft strategy at its development stages, before public consultation.

Public consultation

21. Engagement through public consultation on the revised AMS is planned for September, with the new strategy to come into effect in the early months of 2022.

Stakeholder Engagement Process

22. This section provides a summary of how the AMS Review Engagement Process will be undertaken.
23. Targeted involvement in the AMS review process of entities enlisted within **Annex 1** of this document has been designed, to complement and expand on the existing AMS governance scope. That is to address stakeholder input gaps, including the Innovation and Space sector, whilst widening the breadth of engagement with entities from the existing governance structure¹.
24. With stakeholder volunteers putting themselves forward at the March playback sessions held by the CAA, to participate in targeted small group workshops, to support AMS revision going forward, the CAA has therefore designed an iterative process for developing the AMS. Representatives of groups suggested for targeted involvement will be actively engaged in the revision of AMS through the process outlined under **Figure 1**. The process is further explained in more detail within the following sections of this document.

Figure 1. AMS Review – Iterative Engagement and Communications Process



¹ [CAP1711b AMS Governance Annex](#) updated within [CAP1862 AMS Progress Report 2019](#)

25. The process has been designed to allow the stakeholder groups to articulate their requirements, whilst creating a space of co-creation of a common vision, balanced by the stakeholders themselves. The ongoing progress of the work will be reported to the AMS Review Panel, for advice and guidance on the elements of the new strategy draft, ahead of it being published ahead of the public consultation.
26. Regular communications on the work progress will be provided on the CAA's website, to ensure transparency and flow of information to all interested parties. An indicative engagement timeline has been presented in **Figure 2**.