

2023 No. 562

CIVIL AVIATION

**The Air Navigation (Restriction of Flying) (Northern Ireland)
Regulations 2023**

Made - - - - *18th May 2023*

Coming into force - - *24th May 2023*

The Secretary of State has decided that it is necessary in the public interest to restrict the flying of unmanned aircraft in the areas specified in regulation 3(1) by reason of the intended holding there of VIP events.

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) (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2023 and they come into force on 24th May 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), no unmanned aircraft is to fly below—

- (a) 2,200 feet above mean sea level between 0700 hours and 1700 hours on the 24th May 2023 within the area bounded by a circle having a radius of 2 nautical miles centred at 543950N 0055402W,
- (b) 1,600 feet above mean sea level between 1100 hours on the 24th May 2023 and 1100 hours on the 25th May 2023 within the area bounded by a circle having a radius of 2 nautical miles centred at 542742N 0060509W,
- (c) 1,500 feet above mean sea level between 0700 hours and 1700 hours on the 25th May 2023 within the area bounded by a circle having a radius of 2 nautical miles centred at 542059N 0063919W, and
- (d) 1,500 feet above mean sea level between 0700 hours and 1700 hours on the 25th May 2023 within the area bounded by—
 - (i) straight line joining successively the following points—

(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).

(aa) 542001N 0074148W, and

(bb) 541907N 0073644W, and

(ii) the anticlockwise arc of a circle having a radius of 2 nautical miles centred at 542046N 0073838W between 541907N 0073644W and 542001N 0074148W.

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

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Transport

David J Best

Grade 7

Department for Transport

18th May 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 Newtownabbey, Hillsborough, Armagh and Enniskillen, Northern Ireland due to VIP events that are scheduled to take place there on 24th May 2023 and 25th May 2023.

In view of the high visibility of these events and at the request of the Police Service of Northern Ireland, the Civil Aviation Authority and the Department for Transport agree that the flying of unmanned aircraft should be restricted 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 02892-600965.

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.