

AERONAUTICAL INFORMATION CIRCULAR Y 040/2020

UNITED KINGDOM



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RE-ORGANISATION AND LISTING OF ATS ROUTES PUBLISHED IN THE UK AIP

- 1** International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), Annex 15 Aeronautical Information Service (AIS), sets standards and recommended practices (SARPS) for the categorisation and listing of Air Traffic Service (ATS) routes published in the UK Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP).
- 2** Following the mandating of RNAV-5 at all levels of UK ATS routes in April 2011; the UK has not complied with ICAO requirements for listing Area Navigation Routes (RNAV) in the ENR 3.3 section of the AIP. All UK ATS routes, regardless of navigational type, are currently published in ENR 3.1 as 'Lower ATS Routes' (below FL 245), or 'Upper ATS Routes' (above FL 245) listed in ENR 3.2. The UK does not intend to file a difference to ICAO on this matter.
- 3** As a consequence, and in conjunction with NATS (the UK Air Navigation Service Provider), the CAA is undertaking a review of all published pre-existing ATS information by beginning a gradual transfer of ATS route information to the appropriate sections of the UK AIP.
- 4** RNAV routes currently listed in ENR 3.1 and ENR 3.2, that are wholly contained within existing Terminal Control Areas (TMA) or Control Area (CTA) will be moved to their correct location in the AIP (ENR 3.3) during this initial phase. This is necessary as ENR 3.3 does not permit the establishment of lateral limits defining the extremity of an RNAV type route. RNAV routes not wholly contained within an existing TMA or CTA will remain in ENR 3.1 and ENR 3.2 until CAA and NATS has conducted a further review to establish the need for further ATS route containment areas.
- 5** As ENR 3.3 does not differentiate between lower (below FL 245) and 'upper' (above FL 245) RNAV routes, the requirement to prefix upper air route designators with a 'U' in ENR 3.3 is not necessary. The 'U' prefix will therefore be removed as RNAV routes are moved from ENR 3.1 and ENR 3.2 into ENR 3.3.
- 6** The transfer of RNAV routes into ENR 3.3 will be conducted as a phased project by CAA/NATS over a period of several AIP 'AIRAC' cycles, commencing from AIRAC cycle 6 (effective 26th May 2016).
- 7** **Users of ATS routes should observe all sections (ENR 3.1, ENR 3.2 and ENR 3.3) of the AIP for valid ATS route information when flight planning during this transitional period.**