CHART OF UNITED KINGDOM AREAS OF INTENSE AIR ACTIVITY (AIAA) AND AERIAL TACTICS AREAS (ATA)

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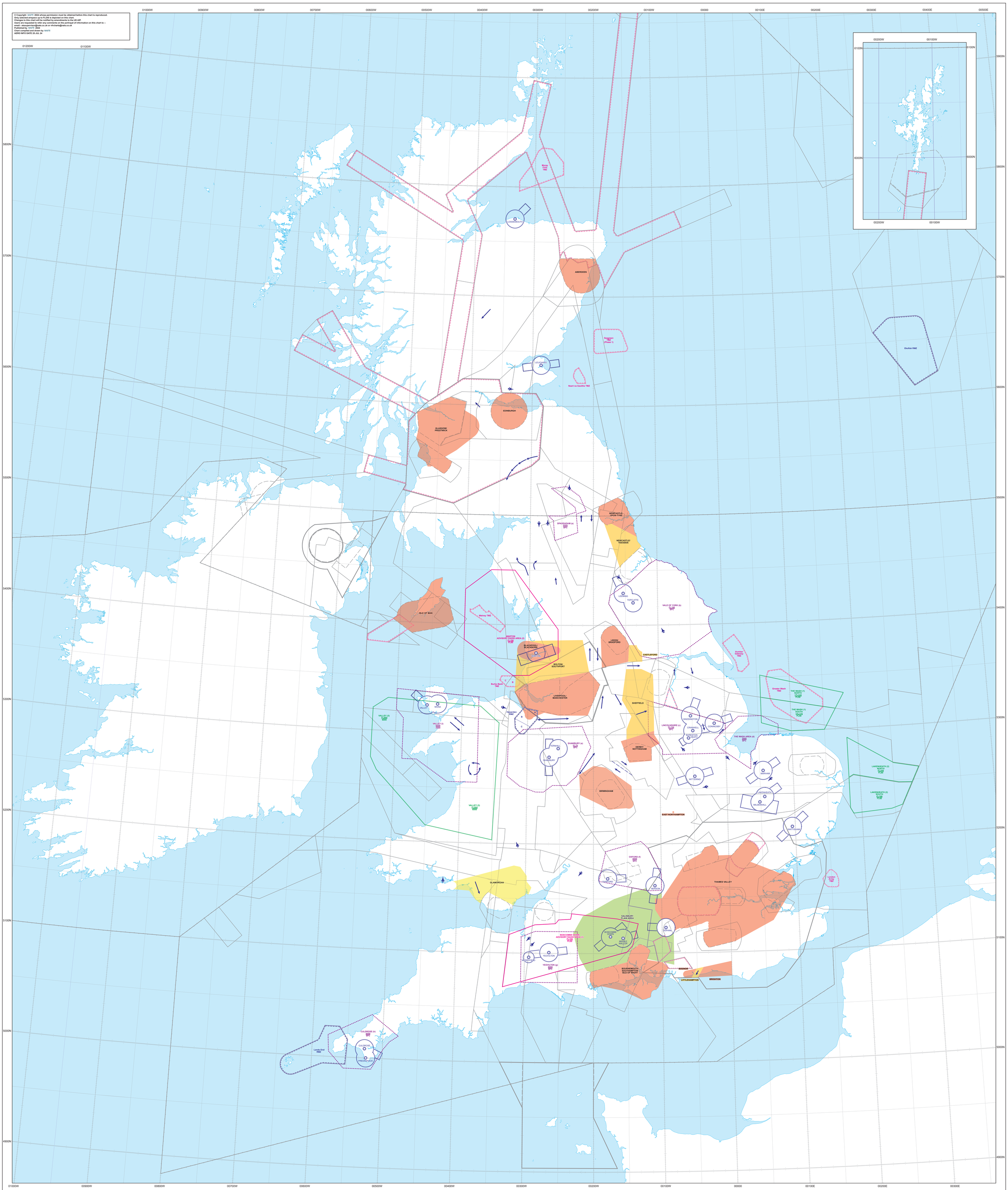

Areas of Intense Air Activity

AIAAs are defined as: 'An airspace within which aircraft, singly or in combination with others, regularly participate in unusual manoeuvres'. Pilots of non-participating aircraft who are unable to avoid these areas are strongly advised to make use of a radar service.

a. SPADEADAM	× Mon-Thu 0900-1700 (0800-1600) and Fri 0900-1600 (0800-1500).	SUACS from Spadeadam on 128.725 MHz, SUAAIS from Newcastle on 124.380 MHz .
b. VALE OF YORK	× Mon-Fri 0900-1700 (0800-1600).	LARS from Leeming ATC on 133.380.
c. LINCOLNSHIRE	× Mon-Fri 0900-1700 (0800-1600).	LARS from Waddington ATC on 119.500 MHz and Coningsby ATC on 119.200 MHz.
d. THE WASH AREA	× Mon-Thu 0900-1700 (0800-1600) and Fri 0900-1500 (0800-1400).	LARS from Marham ATC on 124.155, Coningsby ATC on 119.200 MHz and Waddington ATC on 119.500 MHz.
e. SHAWBURY*	× Mon-Thu 0700-0130 (0600-0030) and Fri 0700-1700 (0600-1600).	LARS from Shawbury ATC on 133.155.
f. OXFORD	Permanently active.	Brize Norton ATC on 124.280.
g. YEOVILTON*	× Mon-Thu 0830-1700 (0730-1600) and Fri 0830-1600 (0730-1500).	LARS from Yeovilton ATC on 127.350 MHz. Note: For aircraft in transit south of a line east to west through Dorchester, a LARS is available from Plymouth Military Radar on 124.150 MHz but to avoid interference pilots should contact Plymouth Military south of 511000N.
h. CULDROSE*	× Mon-Thu 0830-1700 (0730-1600) and. Fri 0830-1630 (0730-1530).	LARS from Culdrose ATC on 134.055.
i. VALLEY	× Mon- Thu 0800-1800 (0700-1700) and Fri 0800-1700 (0700-1600).	Contact Valley ATC or London Radar.

× Peak activity takes place

See UK AIP ENR 5.2 for details of AIAAs.

***Within these areas, night operations may be conducted by aircraft using reduced navigation and/or anti-collision lights.**

Military Low Flying

Military low flying occurs in most parts of the UK at any height up to 2000 feet above the surface. However, the greatest concentration is between surface and 1000 feet and civil pilots should avoid flying in that height band whenever possible.

Military aircraft are considered low flying when:

a. Fixed wing aircraft except light propeller-driven aircraft, are flying below 2000 feet above the surface

b. Light propeller-driven aircraft and helicopters are flying below 500 feet above the surface. (UK AIP ENR 1.1)

Military Aerodrome Traffic Zones (MATZs)

Have the following vertical limits: SFC to 3000FT AAL within the circle and 1000FT AAL to 3000FT AAL within the stub. Zone configuration may vary, often two or more MATZs are amalgamated to produce a Combined Zone (CMATZ). Controlling aerodromes show the MATZ penetration frequency to be used. See UK AIP ENR 2-2.

Directional Flow Over An Area

These arrows do not indicate a particular route, and are meant to show the general direction of flight in an area.

Directional Flow Through Choke Point

These symbols are aligned to the direction of flight. Where there is bi-directional flow through a choke point, aircraft will route in accordance with the depicted symbols.

The Low Flying System of Directional Flow does not apply during weekends, UK Public Holidays and hours of darkness.

Warning
During military exercises, Directional Flow may be changed for operational reasons during the period of the exercise. Such changes will be notified in the Temporary Navigation Warning giving exercise details. Refer to the AIC for details of the UK Military Low Flying System.

Avoidance Areas

a. In the Avoidance Areas, military low flying does not normally take place unless the flights are in connection with an airfield located within such an area.

b. Military low flying does not normally take place within Class A and Class C airspace.

Where AIAAs and the Avoidance Areas overlap, military aircraft will not normally operate below 2000 feet except in connection with an airfield situated in the area.

Transit Areas

Military aircraft are not permitted to fly in Transit Areas below 1000 feet above the surface except helicopters and light propeller driven aircraft. These areas are designed to permit the easy transit of military aircraft between one low flying area and another.

Aerial Tactics Areas

ATAs are defined as: 'An airspace of defined dimensions designated for air combat training, within which high energy manoeuvres are regularly practised by aircraft formations'. Pilots of non-participating aircraft who are unable to avoid these areas are strongly advised to make use of a radar service.

Autonomous operations are only permitted within ATAs above FL195 when the overlying TRA is active.

1. WASH	× Mon-Thu 0700-2300 (0600-2200) and Fri 0700-1700 (0600-1600).	Swanwick Mil.
2. LAKENHEATH	× Mon-Thu 0700-2300 (0600-2200) and Fri 0700-1700 (0600-1600).	Swanwick Mil.
3. VALLEY	× Mon-Thu 0800-1800 (0700-1700); Fri 0800-1700 (0700-1600).	RAF Valley ATC or Swanwick Mil.

× Peak activity takes place

See UK AIP ENR 5.2 for details of ATAs.

The Salisbury Plain Area

The Salisbury Plain Area is an area of high activity used primarily by helicopters, although low flying civil and military fixed-wing aircraft operate from time to time in this airspace.

Advisory Radio Area

1. BOSCOMBE DOWN	Mon-Fri 0930-1730 (0830-1630).	Boscombe Down on 126.705

Test flight activity within this area often requires pilots to fly profiles which limit their ability to manoeuvre their aircraft in compliance with the Rules of The Air. Such flights will receive a radar service from Boscombe Down or the Swanwick Military Special Tasks Cell.

Pilots of other aircraft flying in the area are strongly advised to call Boscombe on 126.705 who provide pilots with information on any relevant test flight activity and, if requested, advice on arranging a detour area, or provision of an Air Traffic Service subject to controller workload.

2. WARTON	Mon-Thu 0730-1900 (0630-1800) and Fri 0730-1700 (0630-1600).	Warton on 129.530 MHz.

Test flight activity within this area often requires pilots to fly profiles which limit their ability to manoeuvre their aircraft in compliance with the Rules of The Air. Such flights will receive a radar service from Warton.

Pilots of other aircraft flying in the area are strongly advised to call Warton on 129.530 MHz who provide pilots with information on any relevant test flight activity and, if requested, advice on arranging a detour area, or provision of an Air Traffic Service subject to controller workload.

See UK AIP ENR 5.2 for details of ARA.

Low Level Civil Aircraft Notification Procedure (CANP)

Some civil aircraft operators have a requirement to fly at very low heights when carrying out authorised aerial work; the majority of these flights take place at or below 1000 feet above the surface. These operators are reminded that the CANP is designed to enhance flight safety in the lower airspace and they are strongly recommended to notify details of their operations in accordance with the UK AIP ENR 1.10. E-mail notification is preferred for CANP requests as this allows the LFC to E-mail or telephone confirmation of E-mail and issue a reference number to the aircraft operating authority. Contact details are as follows:

Low Flying Co-ord (LFC) at RAF (U) Swanwick.

Phone: 0800-515544 or 01489-443100.
Email: swk-lfoffbc@mod.gov.uk

The types of air activity that should be notified include:

a. COMMERCIAL AIR ACTIVITIES
Aerial crop spraying (all agricultural work carried out by aircraft), underslung aerial load lifting, aerial photography/filming, aerial surveys/air surveillance.

b. RECREATIONAL AERIAL ACTIVITIES
Gliders, hang gliders, para gliders, free-flight balloons, microlight aircraft of model aircraft - where 5 or more are operating from a site not listed in the UK AIP for such activity, or are operating outside the hours published in the UK AIP.

c. OTHER AERIAL ACTIVITIES
Tethered/captive balloons to a height greater than 200 feet (60 metres) AGL, kite flying - 5 or more kites from a specified site to a height greater than 200 feet (60 metres) AGL, aircraft operations from water, any other aerial activity likely to create an exceptional concentration of aircraft at a site not listed in the UK AIP.

Transponder Mandatory Zones (TMZ)

Radio Mandatory Zones (RMZ)