

**2017 No. 840**

**CIVIL AVIATION**

**The Air Navigation (Restriction of Flying) (Topcliffe)  
Regulations 2017**

*Made* - - - - *16th August 2017*

*Coming into force* - - *3rd September 2017*

The Secretary of State has decided that it is necessary in the public interest to restrict flying in the vicinity of Topcliffe, North Yorkshire, by reason of the intended operation of an unlit, unmarked tethered balloon.

The Secretary of State makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by article 239 of the Air Navigation Order 2016<sup>(a)</sup>.

**Citation and commencement**

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Air Navigation (Restriction of Flying) (Topcliffe) Regulations 2017 and come into force on 3rd September 2017.

**Interpretation**

2. In regulation 3(1) the times referred to are Co-ordinated Universal Time<sup>(b)</sup>.

**Restricted airspace**

3.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), between 0800 hours on 3rd September 2017 and 0800 hours on 15th September 2017, no aircraft is to fly below 6,000 feet above mean sea level within the area bounded by a circle having a radius of 2 nautical miles whose centre is at 541219N 0012329W.

(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to any aircraft flying—

- (a) with the permission of the Flight Control Officer, 2 Signal Squadron, 32 Signal Regiment, or
- (b) with a clearance issued by the air traffic control unit at RAF Leeming.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Transport

16th August 2017

*Sarah Bishop*  
Head of Aviation Policy  
Department for Transport

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(a) S.I. 2016/765.

(b) In these Regulations Co-ordinated Universal Time (UTC) is one hour behind British Summer Time (BST).

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*(This note is not part of the Regulations)*

These Regulations impose restrictions of flying in airspace as specified in regulation 3(1) in the vicinity of Topcliffe, North Yorkshire by reason of the use of an unlit, unmarked tethered balloon for a military exercise which is scheduled to take place during the period from 3rd to 15th September 2017, inclusive. As the operation does not allow the balloon, or its tether, to be lit or marked, Headquarters 11 Signal Brigade has requested that restrictions be imposed on flying in the vicinity of Topcliffe by reason of flight safety. This has been agreed with the Civil Aviation Authority and the Department for Transport.

In relation to regulation 3, the term 'aircraft' includes aircraft as classified by Part 1 of Schedule 4 to the Air Navigation Order 2016. It also includes, by virtue of article 23 of that Order, any small balloon, any kite weighing not more than two kilograms, any small unmanned aircraft and any parachute including a parascending parachute.

The times mentioned in regulation 3(1) are Universal Co-ordinated Time (UTC), which for the purpose of these Regulations is one hour behind British Summer Time (BST).

In relation to the authority mentioned in regulation 3(2)(a), the Flight Control Officer, 2 Signal Squadron, 32 Signal Regiment may be contacted via telephone number 07976 178001.

Full details of the Statutory Instrument will be promulgated by Notice to Airmen (NOTAM).

The point of contact in the Civil Aviation Authority is Mr R E J Gratton, Principal Airspace Regulator, Safety and Airspace Regulation Group, on telephone number 020 7453 6586.