STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2025 No. 856

CIVIL AVIATION

The Air Navigation (Restriction of Flying) (Castle of Mey) Regulations 2025

Made - - - -	*8th July 2025*
Coming into force - -	*21st July 2025*

The Secretary of State has decided that it is necessary in the public interest to restrict flying in the area specified in regulation 3(1) by reason of increased security of the Royal residence that is located there.

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) (Castle of Mey) Regulations 2025 and they come into force on 21st July 2025.

Interpretation

2. In regulation 3(2) the times referred to are Co-ordinated Universal Time(**b**).

Restricted airspace

3.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), beginning with 2301 hours on 21st July 2025 and ending with 2259 hours on 15th August 2025, no aircraft is to fly below 4,000 feet above mean sea level within the area bounded by a circle having a radius of 1 nautical mile which is centred at 583849N 0031329W.

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

(a) flying in accordance with a permission issued by—

(i) the Police Scotland Royalty and VIP Planning North Unit, or

(ii) the Metropolitan Police, Royalty and Specialist Protection,

(b) operated by or on behalf of—

(i) a Police Air Support Unit,

(ii) the Helicopter Emergency Medical Services,

(iii) the Maritime and Coastguard Agency for the purpose of Search and Rescue only

(**a**) S.I. 2016/765, as amended by S.I. 2024/990; there are other amending instruments, but none is relevant.
(**b**) Co-ordinated Universal Time (UTC) is one hour behind British Summer Time (BST).

(iv) the Kings Helicopter Flight, or

(v) a member of the Royal Family, or

(c) landing in the grounds of the Castle of Mey at the invitation of the person in charge of the household there, with prior notification provided to the Units detailed in paragraph 3(2)(a).

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Transport

Karen L Michaels
Grade 7
Department for Transport

8th July 2025

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations impose restrictions on flying in the vicinity of the Castle of Mey, Thurso, Highlands due to the intended increased security of the Royal residence that is located there on 21st July to 15th August 2025.

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 permissions mentioned in regulation 3(2)(a), the Police Scotland Royalty and VIP Planning North Unit and the Metropolitan Police, Royalty and Specialist Protection may be contacted as notified.

Full details of this Statutory Instrument will be promulgated by Aeronautical Information Service Briefing Sheet and Notice to Aviation (NOTAM).

The point of contact in the Civil Aviation Authority is Mr Alan Frew, Airspace Regulator, Safety and Airspace Regulation Group, on telephone number 0330 1382734.