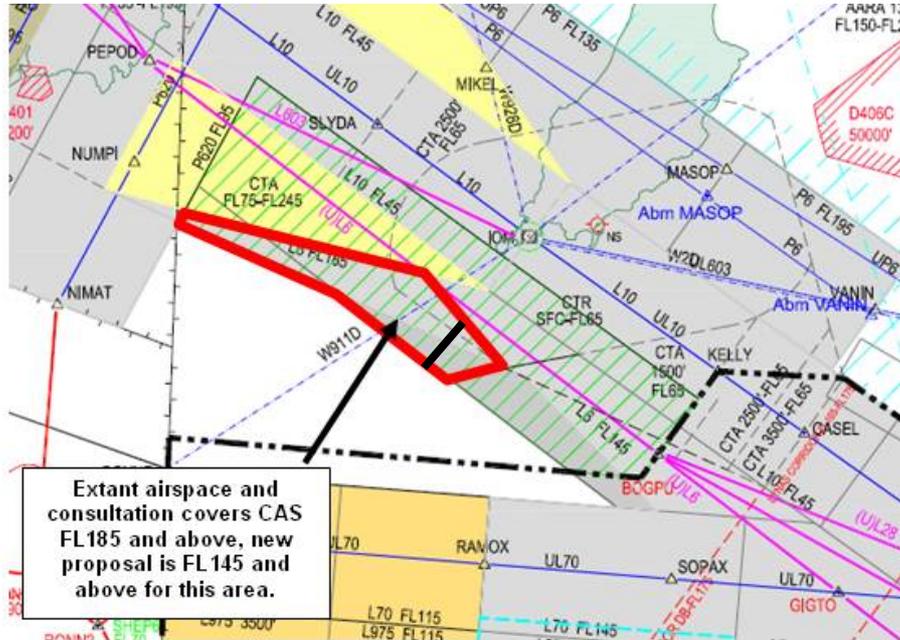


Dear Colleague,

Over the summer of 2011 NATS consulted on a number of proposed airspace changes over the Irish Sea.

The consultation material and feedback report is available at <http://www.nats.co.uk/enviro/airspace-developments/irish-sea-airspace-change-consultation/>

Design work has continued after the consultation to finalise the proposal taking into account feedback from the consultation and to provide the detail required for a formal submission to DAP. This process of finalising the details has identified an opportunity to further reduce the complexity of the proposed airspace boundaries and improve the efficiency of the airways system. This would be achieved by lowering the base of the CAS shown in Figure 1 (below), from FL185 to FL145.



**Figure 1. Additional Area for Lowered L6 from FL185 to FL145**

This would enable all Belfast TMA departures routing via L6 to the south to pick up the route directly from PEPOD, including slow climbers and those requesting a cruise between FL145 and FL185 that would be excluded if the highlighted CAS remains at FL185. This would reduce complexity by enabling ATC to position all Belfast TMA departures on L6. In turn a reduction in complexity contributes to improvement of overall ATS efficiency.

The proposed CAS would be Class D FL145 to the north of the thick black line that divides the highlighted area on Figure 1. To the south of the black line it would be Class A. This is in line with the current division of Class D and Class A in extant airspace.

In addition, the proposal would reduce the complexity of the airspace boundaries in this area, having a single FL145 base associated with L6 between L70 in the south and the Strangford CTA in the North.

As this proposed lowering of the airspace was not covered in the original consultation material from summer 2011 we are re-consulting on this particular revision to the original proposal. Please consider its potential impact and respond to us with any issues that it may create for the airspace users you represent.

**This reconsultation is for a period of 7 weeks (including Xmas week) and will close on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2012.**

Note that we intend to submit an ACP for the Irish Sea proposal early in 2012 with a view to implementation in winter 2012.

Kind regards,  
**NATS Airspace Consultation Team**