

# | Spatial Plans under the Civil Aviation Act 2023

Ministry of Transport - Frequently Asked Questions

## Spatial plans FAQs

- **Do all airports have to consult on their spatial plans?**

No. Only registered airport operators are required to consult.

- **Are airports' Statements of Intent covered by this requirement?**

An airport operator only needs to consult on documents, or parts of documents, that meet the definition of a spatial plan. Statements of Intent are not automatically covered – it depends on what they include.

A spatial plan includes plans, strategies, or statements of intent for future land or infrastructure development at the airport. If the Statement of Intent doesn't include this type of content, then consultation is not required.

However, airport operators may decide to include other relevant documents in their consultation with stakeholders for context.

- **Do airport operators have to consult on aeronautical and non-aeronautical content of spatial plans?**

This is a question for the airport operator. As per the above response, the operator must consult on their spatial plans, which may include both aeronautical and non-aeronautical content.

Non-aeronautical activities could have an impact on aeronautical customers. We encourage airport operators to think broadly about who is appropriate to consult, and what is appropriate to consult on.

- **What should airport operators do with commercially sensitive information?**

An airport operator should consider whether the commercially sensitive information needs to be included in the spatial plan.

If it does, then we recommend that commercially sensitive content is identified and withheld in part, or managed in a way that protects the information, for example released under a strict obligation of confidentiality noting the commercial sensitivity of the material.

The Ministry of Transport will treat any commercially sensitive material appropriately.