

Drone Leadership Group Minutes

Chairperson	Kirstie Hewlett
Date/Time	Wednesday, 27 November 2019 3.00-5:00pm
Location	Ministry of Transport 3 Queens Wharf, Wellington, 6011 (opposite TSB Arena).
Invited participants	Peter Crabtree (MBIE) John Kay (CAA) Steve Moore (CAA) Graeme Sumner (Airways) Bryn Gandy (MoT) Kirstie Hewlett (MoT) Note, other staff from the respective member agencies will also be in attendance

1. Apologies

1 mins

- Graeme Sumner was an apology. Trent Fulcher attended in his place

2. Roundtable highlights of the year (All)

10 mins

- A number of highlights were raised and discussed including:
 - The release of the integration drone paper Taking flight and the benefits study
 - Regulatory work programme being firmed up
 - MBIE's funding support for MoT and CAA
 - The two successful drone forums
 - The agencies being more joined up and having more momentum in the drones space
 - The Airspace Integration Trials work
- Airways also noted that Airshare had 10,000 users at the start of the year and it is now 18,000. They are processing 1000 new users a month. Reported incursions have also gone down from two a month to just over one.

3. Overview of the work we have planned for 2020 (All)

60 mins

MoT

- MoT talked about its regulatory work and gave an update on the proposed approach for 2020 as well as assistance with resources across the leadership group membership - in particular CAA. CAA acknowledged the need to work closely together with MoT on this work. [REDACTED]

Withheld
under
9(2)(f)(iv)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- MoT talked about the Civil Aviation Bill work and provided an update on the proposed approach for next year. This included considering options related to seizing and detaining drones in appropriate circumstances. It noted the Bill is available online
- MoT also talked about future Drone Forums and the importance of having interactive sessions, with opportunities for stakeholders to provide feedback and be involved in the sessions. MoT also discussed the ability to have more involvement from other partner agencies in developing the agendas and content for future forums
- MoT noted that it intended to continue to convene Leadership Group meetings next year at roughly the same intervals (a minimum of every three months)

CAA

- CAA talked about its work and in particular its role in the implementation of any future policy decisions going forward
- CAA acknowledged the current backlog for Part 102 certification. It is currently looking to increase resourcing across its operations, but in particular certification.
- Safety promotion and communications was discussed for 2020. It was noted that the upcoming drone safety campaign will be postponed until 2020 due to external production delays
- New Southern Sky was raised and the lifecycle of the programme and its deliverables were discussed
- The group also talked about information sharing from international drone working groups

MBIE

- MBIE provided a high level overview of the work they are doing in 2020. In particular, the consultation on the test sites and Airspace Integration Trials work
- It noted that there will be a lot of work required to help deliver the Airspace Integration Trials project

Airways

- Airways noted that it would continue with what it has been working on this year e.g. educating drone users and further developing Airshare
- Airways also talked about some of the infrastructure work it is doing in Auckland as well as some risk profiling research it has commissioned

4. UTM (MoT)

10 mins

- MoT provided an update on the UTM work it is doing and the timeframes for some of its deliverables.
- It also talked about all the work overseas jurisdictions are doing on UTM and the linkages to ongoing work in New Zealand
- The next step in the project is to develop an initial discussion paper, which is intended to be presented to the Leadership Group in early 2020.. The paper will provide a basis for a discussion about how we want to position ourselves in regards to UTM

- The group agreed that developing a clear policy position on UTM was important

5. [REDACTED] 20 mins

Withheld under 9(2)(f)(iv)

- [REDACTED]

6. Report back on ITF Drones Working Group (MoT) 10 mins

- MoT gave a presentation about the recent ITF Drones Working Group, and some of the key learnings so far.

7. Outcomes of Drone Forum: November 2019 and the early engagement on the drone safety and regulatory programme (MoT) 10 mins

- MoT provided some of the feedback received from the survey sent to attendees of the recent Forum:
 - Ten attendees responded to the survey
 - All respondents reacted positively to the Forum event and the workshop
 - Some respondents suggested that the event could be extended to include extra networking time
 - The facilitated discussions and workshop sessions were well received
 - Respondents noted the poor performance of the AV equipment
 - Suggested future forum topics included registration, certification processes, distance from airport requirements, flying over people, training, and BVLOS.
- The Group discussed possible Forum topics, and agreed that the next event could include UTM, the results of the Colmar Brunton drone survey, and MBIE's work on Test Sites.
- The meeting ended, and the stakeholder engagement feedback could not be provided

Action	Agency
Airways to send information on the risk profile work it has commissioned to MoT and CAA	Airways
MoT and MBIE will continue to refine the Terms of Reference and the Memorandum of Understanding for the Airspace Integration Trials project	MoT and MBIE