

# Official Record Series 5

United Kingdom  
Civil Aviation Authority



## CAA Scheme of Charges (RPAS)

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The Civil Aviation Authority, pursuant to Section 11 of the Civil Aviation Act 1982 and after consulting the persons who, in its opinion, are likely to be affected by the Scheme or such of those persons as it thinks fit, and after consulting with the Secretary of State, hereby makes a Scheme for determining the charges to be paid to the CAA in connection with the performance by the CAA of the functions conferred on it by or under the assimilated regulations UK (EU) 2019/947 and UK (EU) 2019/945 listed in section 2 below:

### Excess Hour Charges

The CAA has identified within this Scheme those charges which are subject to excess hour charges at the point that the initial charge no longer covers the costs incurred in carrying out the specified activity. In order to determine the equivalent number of hours of CAA time for which the initial charge covers, and where not already otherwise stated, the charge should be divided by the appropriate hourly rate quoted, rounded up to the nearest whole hour.

## 1 REVOCATION

- 1.1 The Scheme of Charges published by the CAA on 12 March 2025 determining the charges to be paid to the CAA in connection with the performance by the CAA of the aforesaid functions is hereby revoked.
- 1.2 Section 16(1) of the Interpretation Act 1978 (which relates to the effect of repeals) shall apply to this Scheme as if this Scheme were an enactment and as if the Scheme of 12 March 2025 revoked by paragraph 1.1 above was an enactment thereby repealed.

## 2 CHARGES INDEX

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### 3 CHARGES

#### 3.1 Specific Category Operational Authorisation Unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) – (OSC OA & PDRA01 OA) Article 12 UK (EU) 2019/947 and LUCs:

3.1.1 The charges in section 3.1 are in force until and including 22 April 2025.

3.1.2 On making an initial or renewal application for an Operational Authorisation or Light UAS Certificate issued by CAA under assimilated regulation UK (EU) 2019/947 and for receiving advice or other regulatory services, the applicant shall pay to the CAA the relevant charge or charges specified in Table 1.

**Table 1:**

Application Type	Initial Charge	Renewal Charge (Note 1)
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Specific category - Operational authorisation with operating safety case risk assessment ( <b>OSC OA</b> )		
Case 1 (Note 2)	£2,314	£662
Case 2 (Note 3)	£1,323	£662
Specific category – Operational authorisation with pre-defined risk assessment ( <b>PDRA01 OA</b> ) (Note 4);	£500	N/A
Specific category – Light UAS certificate ( <b>LUC</b> ) (Note 5)	£6,622	£2,314
Special UAS project (Note 6)	£2,314	N/A
Issue of a duplicate operational authorisation	£108	N/A
CAA regulatory advice and guidance (Note 7)	£330	N/A
Excess Charges, calculated as referenced in the Notes below		

#### NOTES:

- 1 A renewal application can only be made when no changes have been made to the previous year's application. An application which involves changes in either documentation or operating requirements or in the view of the CAA materially affects or changes the nature of the operation, must be submitted as a variation application see 3.1.3/Table 2 below. An application for a renewal of an authorisation must be submitted no earlier than 90 days before the expiry date of the previous authorisation. Any renewal application received after the expiry date will be returned and must be re-submitted as an initial application accompanied by the charge in Column 2, Table 1 above.
- 2 'Case 1' is the standard charge payable on application for an OSC OA unless the application is for a Light UAS OSC OA (see Note 5) or the application is for an OSC OA listed in CAP 722 (where the lower OSC OA charge will apply (see Note 3)). (The standard charge includes up to 7 hours CAA assessment hours and excess charges of £330 per hour of CAA assessment will also apply up to a maximum of £38,219 per year or part of a year).
- 3 'Case 2' is the lower charge payable on application for an OSC OA (for those OSC OAs where the lower OSC OA charge will apply listed in CAP 722). The lower charge includes up to 4 hours CAA assessment hours and excess charges of £330 per hour of CAA assessment will also apply up to a maximum of £38,219 per year or part of a year. Examples of operations that fall into this category include:
  - a. Flights above 400ft/120m that are conducted under visual line of sight (VLOS)
  - b. Flights of UAS with a mass of less than 25kg at reduced distances from uninvolved persons down to a minimum of 30m.
  - c. Extended VLOS (EVLOS) flights using a maximum of one observer.
- 4 The PDRA01 OA charge is payable on making an application for a 'pre-defined risk assessment' (PDRA) category OA. Operations which are eligible to be authorised by a PDRA01 OA are set out in GM2 to Article 11 assimilated regulation UK (EU) 2019/947 and CAP722H.
- 5 The charge payable on application for a Light UAS Certificate (LUC) under assimilated regulation UK (EU) 2019/947 Part C UAS.LUC.010 includes up to 20 hours CAA assessment hours and excess charges of £330 per hour of CAA assessment will also apply up to a maximum of £38,219 per year or part of a year. **Note, the CAA is currently not able to receive any applications for a LUC.**

- 6 A Special UAS project is one which involves additional operational support activity from the CAA that is not covered by any other charges. The charge payable on application includes 7 hours of CAA activity and excess charges of £330 per hour will also apply up to a maximum of £662,655 per year or part of a year in which the CAA investigations take place.
- 7 The CAA provides an initial 90 minutes of regulatory advice and guidance free of charge. Thereafter, any additional regulatory advice and guidance is charged at £330 for each additional hour or part of an hour incurred up to a maximum of £190,471 per year or part of a year. Any chargeable time will be invoiced in arrears by the CAA to the potential applicant and payable on demand.

3.1.3 An application which involves changes in either documentation or operating requirements to the previous year's application, or in the view of the CAA materially affects or changes the nature of the operation, must be submitted as a **variation application**. On making a variation application for an operational authorisation the applicant shall pay to the CAA the charge specified in Table 2.

**Table 2:**

Application Type	Charge
Column 1	Column 2
Technical variations to an OSC OA application ( <i>Note 8</i> )	£827
Administrative variations to OSC OAs and PDRA01 OAs ( <i>Note 9</i> )	£108
Excess Charges, calculated as referenced in the Notes below	

**NOTES:**

- 8 The technical variations to an OSC OA application charge includes 2.5 hours of CAA assessment and excess charges of £330 per hour will also apply up to a maximum of £19,081 per year or part of a year.
- 9 An example of an application for an administrative variation is a change of Company Registered Name or company trading name. Please note that a new Company Registration Number cannot be processed as an Administrative Variation. A change of Company Registration number constitutes a change of legal identity and the relevant initial application must be made.

### 3.2 Specific category operational authorisation Unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) (SORA OA PDRA01 OA & AltMOC OA) Article 12 UK (EU) 2019/947 and LUCs

3.2.1 These charges are in force from 23 April 2025.

3.2.2 On making an initial application or reapplication for an Operational Authorisation or Light UAS Certificate issued by CAA under assimilated regulation UK (EU) 2019/947 and for receiving advice or other regulatory services, the applicant shall pay to the CAA the relevant charge or charges specified in Table 3.

**Table 3:**

Application Type	Application	Reapplication Charge
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Specific category operational authorisation – Pre-Defined Risk Assessments (PDRA)		
Declarative	£500	£500
Non-Declarative	£2,185	£2,185
Specific category operational authorisation – Specific Operations Risk Assessment (SORA)		
SAIL I	£2,185	£2,185
SAIL II Initial application & non-technical reapplication - (Note 11)	£3,495	£3,495
SAIL III/IV initial application & non-technical reapplication - (Note 12)	£13,759	£8,816
SAIL V/VI initial application & non-technical renewal - (Note 13)	£39,967	£13,420
Specific category operational authorisation – Alternative Means of Compliance (Note 14)	£2,185	£2,185
Specific category – Light UAS certificate (LUC) (Note 15)	£6,622	£2,314
Issue of a duplicate operational authorisation	£108	N/A
CAA regulatory advice and guidance (Note 16)	£330	N/A
Excess Charges, calculated as referenced in the Notes below		

#### NOTES

- 10 A reapplication only applies where no changes have been made to the previous year's application. A reapplication which involves changes in either documentation or operating requirements or in the view of the CAA materially affects or changes the nature of the operation, must be either be submitted as a variation application (where this is AltMOC OA or an administrative variation of any OA- see Table 4 below), or as an initial application if not (if relates to a SORA OA). Any reapplication received after the expiry date will be returned and must be re-submitted as an initial application accompanied by the charge in Column 2, Table 3 above
- 11 The charge payable includes up to 11 hours of CAA assessment and covers the activity worked on for the application plus an allowance for platform costs. Excess charges of £330 per hour will also apply and are payable on demand.
- 12 The charge payable includes up to 28 hours of CAA assessment and covers the activity worked on for the application plus an allowance for platform costs. Excess charges of £496 per hour will also apply and are payable on demand.
- 13 The charge payable includes up to 81 hours of CAA assessment and covers the activity worked on for the application plus an allowance for platform costs. Excess charges of £496 per hour will also apply and are payable on demand.
- 14 The charge payable includes up to 7 hours of CAA assessment and covers the activity worked on for the application plus an allowance for platform costs. Excess charges of £330 per hour will also apply

and are payable on demand.

- 15 The charge payable on application for a Light UAS Certificate (LUC) under assimilated regulation UK (EU) 2019/947 Part C UAS.LUC.010 includes up to 20 hours CAA assessment hours and excess charges of £330 per hour of CAA assessment will also apply up to a maximum of £38,219 per year or part of a year.
- 16 The CAA provides an initial 90 minutes of regulatory advice and guidance free of charge. Thereafter, any additional regulatory advice and guidance is charged at £330 for each additional hour or part of an hour incurred up to a maximum of £190,471 per year or part of a year. Any chargeable time will be invoiced in arrears by the CAA to the potential applicant and payable on demand.

3.2.3 An application which involves changes in either documentation or operating requirements to the previous year's application, or in the view of the CAA materially affects or changes the nature of the operation, must be submitted as a **variation application**. On making a variation application for an operational authorisation the applicant shall pay to the CAA the charge specified in Table 4.

**Table 4**

Application Type	Charge
Column 1	Column 2
Technical variations to OAs issued under an alternative means of compliance <b>OA-AltMOC</b> ( <i>Note 17</i> )	£827
Administrative variations to SORA OAs, PDRA01 OAs and AltMOC OAs ( <i>Note 18</i> )	£108
Excess Charges, calculated as referenced in the Notes below	

**NOTES:**

- 17 The technical variations to OA (AltMOC) application charge includes 2.5 hours of CAA assessment and excess charges of £330 per hour up to a maximum of £19,081 per year or part of a year will be charged and payable on demand.
- 18 An example of an application for an administrative variation is a change of Company Registered Name or company trading name. Please note that a new Company Registration Number cannot be processed as an Administrative Variation. A change of Company Registration number constitutes a change of legal identity and the relevant initial application must be made.

### 3.3 Recognised Assessment Entities for Remote Pilot Competency (RAE(PC))

3.3.1 On making an application for an initial or reapplication for approval or accreditation as an UK RAE(PC) to provide advice to the CAA whether that Remote Pilot meets the standards set out in Article 8(2) (and associated Acceptable Means of Compliance), the applicant shall pay to the CAA the charge in Table 5.

**Table 5:**

Application Type	Initial Application	Reapplication Charge (Note 19)
Column 1 (Note 23)	Column 2	Column 3
Recognised Assessment Entities for Remote Pilot Competency (RAE(PC))		
A2CofC/GVC Pilot Competency <u>and</u> Level 1 Pilot Competency (Note 20)	£4,627	£3,277
Level 2 Pilot Competency (Note 21)	£6,240	£3,277
Level 3 Pilot Competency (Note 22)	£9,360	£7,020
Variations (Note 24)	£938	N/A
Remote Pilot Certificates	£68	N/A
Excess Charges, calculated as referenced in the Notes below		

#### NOTES:

19. A reapplication assumes no changes have been made to the previous year's application. If an RAE needs to make changes at the time of reapplication, such as changes to the administrative set up of the RAE(PC), the RAE(PC) will be subject to additional hours of £330 per hour of CAA assessment will be charged and payable on demand.
20. The charge includes up to 15 CAA assessment hours and excess charges of £330 per hour of CAA assessment will be charged and payable on demand.
21. The charge includes up to 19 CAA assessment hours and excess charges of £330 per hour of CAA assessment will be charged and payable on demand.
22. The charge includes up to 29 CAA assessment hours and excess charges of £330 per hour of CAA assessment will be charged and payable on demand.
23. To increase the scope of an RAE(PC) approval or accreditation, to add a higher Level of competence, an RAE must already hold an approval at all lower Levels, e.g. it is not possible to hold an approval or accreditation only at level 3.
  - If an approved or accredited RAE(PC) Level 1 PC wants to apply to increase their scope to Level 2 they must make a variation application and the minimum charge, payable on application, will be £1872 which includes up to 6 CAA assessment hours and excess charges of £330 per hour of CAA assessment will be charged and payable on demand;
  - If an approved or accredited RAE(PC) Level 2 PC wants to apply to increase their scope to Level 3 they must make a variation application and the minimum charge, payable on application will be £3,120 which includes up to 10 CAA assessment hours and excess charges of £330 per hour of CAA assessment will be charged and payable on demand
24. Other than an application to vary the RPC Level, all variations to a RAE(PC) approval will be charged £938 payable on application. The charge includes up to 3 CAA assessment hours and excess charges of £330 per hour of CAA assessment will be charged and payable on demand plus excess hourly rate of £330 / hour will be charged and payable on demand.

### 3.4 Recognised Assessment Entities for Flightworthiness Assessment of UAS (RAE(F))

- 3.4.1 On making an application for an initial or reapplication for approval or accreditation as a UK RAE(F) to provide advice to the CAA on the flightworthiness of a UAS, the applicant shall pay to the CAA the charge in Table 6.

**Table 6:**

Application Type	Initial Application	Reapplication Charge (Note 25)
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Recognised Assessment Entities for Flightworthiness Assessment of UAS (RAE(F)) application charge (Note 26)	£9,360	£7,020
Variations (Note 27)	£938	N/A
Excess Charges, calculated as referenced in the Notes below		

**NOTES:**

25. A reapplication assumes no changes have been made to the previous year's application. If an RAE needs to make changes at the time of reapplication, such as changes to the administrative set up of the RAE(F), the RAE(F) will be subject to additional hours of £330 per hour of CAA assessment will be charged and payable on demand.
26. The charge includes up to 30 CAA assessment hours and excess charges of £330 per hour of CAA assessment will be charged and payable on demand.
27. The charge includes up to 3 CAA assessment hours and excess charges of £330 per hour of CAA assessment will be charged and payable on demand.



### 3.5 UK Drone and Model Aircraft Registration and Education Scheme (DMARES)

3.5.1 Any UAS operator who applies for an initial registration under Assimilated Regulation (EU) No. 2019/947 Article 14, and thereafter for an annual re-registration under the Scheme must pay to the CAA a charge of £11.79, payable upon each application for initial registration and thereafter on each application for annual re-registration to the CAA. The CAA DMARES website link: [Registering a drone or model aircraft | UK Civil Aviation Authority](#) provides more information.

### 3.6 Model Aircraft Article 16 Authorisation

3.6.1 On making an initial, variation or renewal application for an authorisation under article 16 of assimilated regulation UK (EU) 2019/947 the applicant shall pay to the CAA the relevant charge or charges in Table 7 below.

**Table 7:**

<b>Application Type</b>	<b>Initial (Note 28)</b>	<b>Technical Variation (Note 29)</b>	<b>Administrative Variation</b>	<b>Annual Renewal Charge (Note 30)</b>	<b>Excess charges</b>
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5	Column 6
Article 16 Authorisation	£2,317	£828	£108	£663	Calculated as referenced in the Notes below

**NOTES:**

28. The initial application charge covers 7 hours of work with any excess effort incurred charged at £330 per hour up to a maximum of £38,219 per year or part of a year.
29. Technical variations have been combined into a single fee which covers the equivalent of 2.5 hours work plus any excess hours, if required, which are charged at £330 per hour up to a maximum of £19,081. 'Technical Variation' refers to any changes that (in the CAA's opinion) materially affect or change the nature of the operation. Examples include; changes to operational procedures and/or processes, significant organisational changes or amendments to Operating Safety Cases/Risk Assessments.
30. Renewal of an authorisation assumes that there are no changes involved. A renewal which involves changes in either documentation or operating requirements will be charged as variation application. An application for a renewal of an authorisation must be submitted no earlier than 90 days before expiry date, any applications received after the expiry date will be treated as an Initial application.

### 3.7 Exemptions under Article 71 Regulation UK (EU) Regulation 2018/1139

Where the aircraft owner or operator makes an application to the CAA for an exemption, in accordance with the provisions of Article 71 of assimilated UK (EU) Regulation 2018/1139 (the UK Basic Regulation) or article 266 of the Air Navigation Order 2016, the applicant shall pay to the CAA a charge of £1,092 on application.

### 3.8 Alternative means of compliance

Other than when applying for an operational authorisation via AltMOC (see section 3.1 and 3.2 above), when making an application for the CAA to review an alternative means of compliance (AltMOC) that would allow the establishment of compliance with the assimilated regulations UK (EU) 2019/947 and UK (EU) 2019/945 other than in accordance with AMC adopted by the CAA, the applicant must pay to the CAA a charge of £936 on application. Should the CAA review exceed three hours, the applicant must pay to the CAA additional charges of £330 per hour for each of the excess hours expended by the CAA in dealing with the application or part thereof. All charges (other than the charge payable on application) are payable on demand.

### 3.9 **Copies of documents**

On making an application for the issue by the CAA of a copy or replacement of any document mentioned in this Scheme the applicant shall pay to the CAA a charge of £40.

### 3.10 **Additional charge where functions are performed outside of the United Kingdom**

An additional charge will be payable where, in connection with any function in respect of which a charge is specified in this Scheme, the CAA deems it necessary for a Member or employee of the CAA or any other person appointed to act on behalf of the CAA to travel outside the country in which such person is normally stationed.

The applicant or holder shall pay the CAA on demand, in addition to the appropriate charge specified in this Scheme, a charge of such amount as may be decided and invoiced by the CAA having regard to the expense thereby incurred by it.

The additional charge shall not exceed, for each employee of the CAA or each person appointed to act on behalf of the CAA, a maximum of £69,801 per function in respect of which a charge is specified in this Scheme, during which each such Member or employee or any other person appointed to act on behalf of the CAA is absent from the country in which he is normally stationed. The charge is payable on demand.

For the purpose of this section the United Kingdom, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands shall be treated as one country.

**NOTE 31:** The additional charge shall include overseas travel time for which the appropriate rates can be found on the [CAA UK Official Record Series 5 web page](#).

### 3.11 **CAA invoice payment terms**

All CAA invoices raised under this Scheme are payable on demand.

## **4 Definitions**

4.1 For the purposes of this Scheme CAA' means the Civil Aviation Authority.

4.2 All other expressions used in this Scheme shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the same respective meanings as in the assimilated UK (EU) Regulation 2018/1139 (the UK Basic Regulation) and the implementing regulations made under it. Where terms defined are amended, they shall have the meaning as so amended.

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(This note is not part of the Scheme.)

The CAA Refund and Waivers Policy may be found at [www.caa.co.uk/ors5](http://www.caa.co.uk/ors5)

The latest version of this document is available in electronic format at [www.caa.co.uk/ors5](http://www.caa.co.uk/ors5), where you may also register for e-mail notification of amendments. Details for purchasing a paper copy can be found at the same web address.