

Drone Application:

Application for permission to fly a Drone within Belfast Harbour Estate

Before applying for permission to use an **Unmanned Air System (UAS or 'Drone')** anywhere within Belfast Harbour Estate, the applicant must have a **valid and active Non-Standard Flight Approval Number from National Air Traffic Services (*NATS)** irrespective of the size or weight of the drone in question.

This form along with confirmation of a valid **Non Standard Flight (NSF)** approval should be submitted to the ***Operational Planning Sergeant, Belfast Harbour Police (BHP)** along with evidence of Public Liability Insurance (PLI) and appropriate accompanying documentation associated with the safe and legal Operation of a Drone.

[* Non-Standard Flight applications - NATS](#)

NB: Only the Operational Planning Sergeant, BHP can authorise a Drone Flight within the Harbour Estate. No other person, organisation, service or company within or outside Belfast Harbour Estate can authorise the use of a Drone within the Harbour Estate – this includes organisations or companies within Titanic Quarter.

Flights over premises or iconic sites will require the approval of the person in charge of the premises, organisation or company in question and must be in writing.

NB: Flights over or near water (including Quays, Wharves or The Marina) will require the express approval in writing from The Harbour Master – HarbourMasters@belfast-harbour.co.uk

Drone Operators who are **NOT** based within the **United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland** (known in the UK National Regulations as "third-country" operators who have their principal place of business, are established, or reside outside the UK) should refer to **CAP 722 2.6.1** for guidance on compliance with UK CAA regulations.

Specifically, third-country operators must register as a UAS operator in the UK. Equivalent qualifications of EU member states may be accepted by the UK CAA as part of a risk assessment.

These measures must be in place prior to the flight taking place.

Please see additional information on Appendix 'A'

***belfastharbourpolice@belfast-harbour.co.uk**

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UAS Operator/ Remote Pilot: You must have completed a UK CAA recognised Drone Theory and Practical Course and be certified as a fully qualified Remote Pilot with the UK CAA, either by a legacy NQE or a Recognised Assessment Entity (RAE). You must include evidence of your qualification(s) on this application. If your application is successful you will be the only person authorised to Operate/Fly the Drone and under no circumstances will you permit another person to operate the Drone without authorisation from The Operational Planning Sergeant, Belfast Harbour Police.

Name of Applicant:

Contact Landline No:

Contact Email Address:

Contact Mobile No:

Address:

Include a current copy of your Operators/Pilots Qualification (GVC or legacy qualification):

Include your UK CAA issued FLYER-ID:

Active NSF Number from NATS:

Written Authorisation from Air Traffic Control (ATC) at George Best Belfast City Airport (GBBCA) irrespective of size or weight of the drone in question

Do you hold the necessary insurance requirements i.e. Public Liability Insurance?

Yes

No

Applicants must have £10 million public liability insurance (PLI) – there will be no exceptions made for this requirement.

Risk Assessment (RA)

Permissions from others including premises or companies in question if applicable

Drone and Purpose of Flight:

Make, Model & Weight of Drone which will be used by the above Pilot:

Equipment included on Drone:

Purpose of flight: Commercial / Non Commercial / Other – specify in all cases

Flight Details:

Day(s):

Date(s):

Flight path:

Take off location:

Landing location:

Start time:

Finish time:

The location you request on your original application may not be appropriate nor approved and if changed you must only take off/land or fly in the area approved by The Operational Planning Sergeant, Belfast Harbour Police. See Appendix 'A'

Appendix 'A'**Considerations which must be satisfied prior to approval being given by Belfast Harbour Police (BHP) to Operate/Pilot a Drone within Belfast Harbour Estate**

1. The individual Operator/Pilot must produce written documentation detailing the qualifications relating to his/her operational capability for the Drone in question
2. There may be occasions when The Operational Planning Sergeant, Belfast Harbour Police, The Harbour Master or Belfast Harbour Commissioners Compliance Department will stipulate that a 'Spotter' is required and that additional safety measures could also be required to be implemented
3. All drones are to clearly display their associated Operator ID. Means of compliance are stated at <https://register-drones.caa.co.uk/labelling-drones>
4. The individual Operator/Pilot must produce approval in writing from Air Traffic Control (ATC) at George Best Belfast City Airport (GBBCA) **irrespective of the size or weight of the drone. This must include a valid NSF approval number from NATS.**
5. Insurance details must be current and documentary evidence of insurance cover must be submitted. Insurance will not be accepted without a **Permission for Commercial Operations Certificate (PFCO)** or **Operational Authorisation (OA)** from the UK CAA.
6. If approved only the Operator/Pilot making the application will be permitted to operate/fly the Drone. Under **NO CIRCUMSTANCES** will any person who does not hold a UK CAA approved Drone GVC or Legacy Qualification be permitted to operate the Drone at any time. It is the responsibility of the Remote Pilot to ensure that their qualification is appropriate to the class of drone being flown in accordance with their operational authorisation or PFCO. Remote Pilots should at all times ensure compliance with the latest regulatory requirements for proof of competency, referring to CAP 722 Appendix B
7. The individual Operator/Pilot (and 'spotter' if applicable) must be clearly visible at all times and must wear appropriate **Hi Viz Clothing** which identifies him/her as the '**Drone Pilot**' or '**Spotter**'
8. The individual Operator/Pilot must have completed in full the Belfast Harbour Commissioners application form and have satisfied all aspects of the requirements of the form including any additional matters stipulated in this communication or any other communications thereafter
9. As Belfast Harbour Estate is a '**Private Place**' and contains several 'sensitive' buildings / companies / organisations as well as both private, commercial and military vessels (on occasions) it is important that any person operating a Drone within the estate does so lawfully (including compliance with BHC Bye Laws) and within relevant regulations and that he/she is aware of matters relating to Data Protection (ICO Code of Practice 2015) and remains at all times fully compliant with any legal restrictions placed upon the use of the Drone in question including restrictions placed by the UK CAA, ATC and Belfast Harbour Commissioners and or Belfast Harbour Police
10. Before approval is given to proceed with any Drone Operation in Belfast Harbour Estate the above matters (and if necessary the views of senior representatives of local companies or organisations will be sought in advance of approval being given) will be taken into consideration by BHP before authorisation is given
11. Any restrictions relating to the use of a Drone will be detailed in any Communication issued by Belfast Harbour Police
12. **The Air Navigation (Amendment) Order 2021 – Relevant Articles**

Remote Pilots are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure compliance with the relevant articles of the ANO at all times. In addition, should a Remote Pilot be operating under an Operational Authorisation in the Specific Category, it is their responsibility to operate their UAS in accordance with the relevant approved risk assessment limits. Belfast Harbour Police, The Harbour Master or BHC Compliance Department reserve the right to impose stricter limits than those defined in an Authorisation at any time. All relevant operating limits should be highlighted in your flight specific risk assessment with references to appropriate approvals

13. The Operator/Pilot must telephone BHP Control Room on **028 9055 3000 and ATC GBBCA** immediately before taking off and upon finishing the flight. The Pilot must be able to be contacted on their mobile phone by the Police and ATC at all times during his/her operation of a Drone within Belfast Harbour Estate
14. The Location, take off/landing point and the flight path you initially apply for may not be appropriate and therefore not approved. An alternative take off/landing point and flight path may be approved by the Operational Planning Sergeant, Belfast Harbour Police. You must not deviate from the approved location, take off/landing point or flight path (or any other instructions/restrictions) without the permission of the Operational Planning Sergeant, Belfast Harbour Police as this could result in you being reported to the Public Prosecution Service (PPS) with a view to prosecution and or being expelled from the Harbour Estate.
15. The Operator/Pilot will adhere to any instructions given by a member of Belfast Harbour Police including the cessation of the operation/flight in question
16. To qualify as a Drone Pilot/Operator a person must have passed an approved UK CAA Drone Pilots course from a UK CAA approved National Qualified Entity or Recognised Assessment Entity. If they have their own business they will have their own Permission for Commercial Operations or Operational Authorisation.

If they are working for another company they will need to produce their certificate of competence from their NQE/RAE and also proof of operating for another company with a PFCO or OA (mentioned in the Drone Pilot Ops Manual)

NB: BHP reserve the right to fully check any documentation submitted with the originator/issuing authority without the permission of the person/company submitting the application in order to authenticate and determine the bona fides of any material submitted.

Permissions to operate a Drone may be changed, cancelled or postponed at short notice without explanation.

The effective and efficient operation of The Port of Belfast and the needs of the port community and visitors will receive priority at all times.

In accordance with CAP2038A00, Belfast City Airport is considered a "Protected Aerodrome" with an associated "Flight Restriction Zone (FRZ)". As such, a valid NSF from NATS is required, with associated activation, in order for a flight to be legal. If operating outside Airfield Operating Hours, drone pilots are reminded that these regulations remain in place and should at all times refer to extant national regulations for further guidance on specific operating circumstances inside the Flight Restriction Zone of a Protected Aerodrome. Without written authority from Belfast City Airport Air Traffic Control to fly a Drone (irrespective of the size or weight of the drone) within the Restricted Fly Zone surrounding George Best Belfast City Airport (which takes in all of Belfast Harbour Estate) your application will be automatically rejected.

The Operator/Pilot will produce any and all documentation relating to their use of a Drone within Belfast Harbour Estate to a Constable (BHP or PSNI) on demand.

SUBMIT