Office of the Chair



Mr Tim Roca MP Member of Parliament for Macclesfield Chair of the APPG for Aviation

Via Email:

Date: 29 January 2025

Dear Mr Roca

Thank you for copying me into your letter to the Aviation Minister dated 16 January 2025, regarding the Radio Operator's Certificate of Competence (ROCC). I would like to take the opportunity to provide an update on the Civil Aviation Authority's (CAA's) work on the ROCC.

As you point out, the potential to further improve the standards surrounding the holders of the ROCC is welcomed by industry. We believe there is potential for improvement in the following areas:

The proficiency of aeronautical English Language.

The standardisation and assessment of competence of the ROCC holders and their ability to comply with procedures relevant to aeronautical radiotelephony. Standardisation and assessment of competence of ROCC examiners.

Although we previously stated the intention to have improved ROCC standards in place by August 2025, it should be noted that the timescales indicated in CAP 2192 are for guidance only and it has not been possible to progress the review work in line with that schedule. This is due to the resource required for tasks in other licensing areas to ensure the UK's continued compliance with the Convention on International Civil Aviation.

We plan to progress this work at an appropriate pace, so as not to inconvenience the industry and we intend to consult with ROCC holders in sufficient time, so the sector has the opportunity to offer feedback concerning any proposed changes before they are introduced. I can confirm that our current intention is to begin the review process by mid-2026. Please be assured that, in the meantime, the current ROCC requirements will remain in place.

One improvement that will be taking place in the near future is the availability of a new digital application process for ROCC Examiners, for the grant or renewal of their Examiner Authority. This process will be available in time for the renewals due in August of this year. The digital application will replace the existing method of sending applications by letter or email and should make the process more efficient for all concerned.

Further details of any proposed changes to ROCC requirements will be published in due course on the CAA website and notified via our Skywise news alerts.

We are always happy to engage with industry to discuss proposed improvements. In this case, I would suggest that the most productive timing for such a meeting on this topic would be once we are in a position to launch a consultation on any proposed changes with the industry. Our Personnel Licencing Policy team would be happy to follow up with you once we reach that stage.

I hope the information in my response is of assistance but please do not hesitate to contact our Policy Lead for Personnel Licensing, any further questions.

Yours sincerely



Sir Stephen Hillier, GCB CBE DFC CHAIR