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Údarás Eitlíochta na hÉireann
Foirgneamh na hAmanna
11–12 Sráid D’Olier
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ÚDARÁS EITLÍOCHTA NA hÉIREANN
IRISH AVIATION AUTHORITY

05/03/2026

Dail Question No: 71

To ask the Minister for Transport whether he will confirm, in establishing the temporary UAS Geographical Zone (UGZ T2) in Cork whether the safety case and supporting risk assessment were shared with stakeholders before the announcement; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Deputy O’Gorman,

Airspace change proposals, including UAS Geographical Zone (UGZ), may be made to the Irish Aviation Authority (IAA) for reasons such as safety and security. Additionally, UGZ may be established for privacy, or environmental reasons, and can prohibit, restrict, or enable Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS/drones), for example the current restrictions around airport and prisons.

The IAA reviews each application in detail, including the proposed activities and supporting evidence, to determine whether the introduction of an airspace change is justified and meets required standards for safety and security purposes. The temporary UGZ in Cork city was established at the request of AirNav Ireland (ANI), following their submission of a safety case, to enable Beyond Visual Line-Of-Sight (BVLOS) UAS operations, by ensuring coordination with other UAS operators. ANI Safety Cases are not shared with other entities.

Sincerely

Alec Elliott

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