



Australian Future Airspace Framework Technical Working Group Tasking Instructions

The Australian Future Airspace Framework (AFAF) Technical Working Group (TWG) is established and operates in accordance with the Terms of Reference of the Aviation Safety Advisory Panel (ASAP) dated September 2017 (or as amended).

Background

CASA is developing the AFAF in accordance with the Government's airspace policy objectives detailed in the Australian Airspace Policy Statement 2021. The AFAF is a structural outline describing the design principles for the future airspace architecture. It will deliver a process for how to propose and assess design changes for implementation into the Australian administered airspace. The AFAF will be Australia's primary reference source for airspace strategic principles, future operations, and strategic change planning. Design changes will be integrated into the long-term strategic airspace plan to support implementation into Australian airspace. The TWG will bring its diverse expertise to review the AFAF deliverables and provide comments and recommendations.

Purpose

The Technical Working Group will:

- Provide industry insight and understanding of current needs and challenges.
- Review the iterative volumes of the AFAF.
- Provide current, relevant technical expertise for the development, analysis and review of legislative and non-legislative solutions to identified issues.
- Assist with the development of draft regulations, guidance materials and other supporting materials.
- Provide endorsement and/or conditional endorsement of draft regulations, guidance materials and other supporting materials for consideration by the ASAP and CASA.

The TWG work will be complete after the volumes have been approved.

Specific objectives

1. The TWG is to assess the overall construct of the AFAF volumes and the methodology of the AFAF team to confirm that AFAF may reasonably meet its intended objectives.
2. The TWG is to review the AFAF volumes presented to confirm that each of the volumes may reasonably be expected to meet the intended objective of that volume, within the AFAF document suite.
3. The TWG is to provide a concise summary to the ASAP at the completion of each of the reviews.

Roles and responsibilities

CASA	Technical Working Group Members
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organise meetings and workshops, and produce agendas, papers and supporting materials• Facilitate meetings and workshops• Record insights and findings• Communicate openly and consistently with working group members about project status and issues• Respect the time of all working group members by minimising work required to achieve outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commit to supporting the project objectives and timeline• Engage and collaborate constructively at all times• Prepare for working group activities by reviewing agendas, papers and supporting materials• Provide timely and considered advice in meetings, and between meetings as required• Respond to requests for feedback on draft materials within agreed timeframes

Confidentiality

All discussions and materials from TWG meetings should be treated as confidential. Premature dissemination of information may dilute TWG processes, particularly if discussion points remain unsettled or documents are not ready for public consultation.

Reporting arrangements

At the conclusion of the meeting, or soon thereafter, recommendations and reports of the TWG will be provided to the Chair of the ASAP, through the Secretariat.

Consensus

A key aim of the Technical Working Group is that a consensus be reached, wherever possible, in the finalisation and preparation of advice for the Aviation Safety Advisory Panel and CASA.

The Technical Working Group will be guided by the ASAP Terms of Reference (Section 6) with respect to determining and documenting consensus.

Membership

Members of the TWG will be appointed by the ASAP Chair, following ASAP processes.

The membership of the Future Airspace should consist of Subject Matter Expertise in the following areas of airspace operations:

- CASA Airspace Strategy team representative (working group lead)
- Part 121
- Part 133
- Part 135
- General Aviation
- Flight training organisations
- Self-administering organisations (gliding, ultralight, sport aircraft, balloon)
- RPAS – recreational and commercial
- Advanced Air Mobility (AAM)
- Space / high altitude launches
- Airports, heliports, vertiports
- Airservices (observer)
- Defence (observer)
- Department (observer)

Requests for changes to the membership will be made to the Chair of the ASAP, through the Secretariat.

Attendance and travel

In the interests of sustainability, the TWG meetings are intended to be held via videoconference. This will be coordinated by the ASAP Secretariat.