

CAA HSU Definitions

Aircraft

"Aircraft" means any machine that can derive support in the atmosphere from the reactions of the air otherwise than by the reactions of the air against the surface of the earth.

Civil Aviation Act 1990

'In Operation' and 'Work On Board'

The Prime Ministerial Designation requires the CAA to administer the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 (HSWA) for the aviation sector, specifically for aircraft while in operation.

It covers the administration of the Act for work on board aircraft and for aircraft as places of work while in operation. Specifically, from section 9(4) in operation means while the aircraft is taxiing, taking off, flying or landing.

The [designation](#) further clarifies this and the CAA may perform all the functions and exercise all the powers of the regulator under HSWA in respect of:

- a. Work to prepare an aircraft for imminent flight;
- b. Work on board an aircraft for the purpose of imminent flight or while in operation; and
- c. Aircraft as workplaces while in operation.

The CAA takes the view that:

Work On Board: Means work in respect of the aircraft operation, but not work that passengers may be doing while being transported. The CAA also considers that a 'passenger' in this context is someone who has paid a fee, or for whom a fee was paid, to the aircraft operator for their transportation.

In Operation: Means it is from the moment of initial movement of the aircraft until the aircraft fully ceases movement, the intent of the pilot being that the operation has ended. For aircraft using chocks, effectively it is the time when the chocks have been removed until the chocks are replaced, that is, 'chock to chock'.

Health and Safety Medical Practitioner

A registered medical practitioner appointed to act under the HSWA for the investigation of health notifications.

The duties, powers and appointment guidelines are contained within sections 181 – 188 of the HSWA. Please see link below to the sections of the Act.

[Sections 181 - 188 HSWA](#)