



National Information Circular

NIC 04/2026

Subject	Change notification – 9 July 2026 AIRAC		
Valid from	11 June 2026	Valid to	31 August 2026
Units Affected	All units		
Authorised by	ATM Standards and Assurance Manager		
Background	The Manual of Air Traffic Services (MATS) version 76 and the Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP Book) AL 127 will become effective on 9 July 2026.		
For controller information	<p>The change summaries for MATS and AIP can be found in the published documents and are reproduced below for reference. Not all minor and editorial changes are included.</p> <p>Additionally, an AIRAC briefing document can be found in the 'AIRAC Education' document library on the ATS Integrity team site (here). This document provides an indication of what has changed and the reason(s) for the change where the change has not been previously published by IMA and is considered significant.</p> <p>Some changes to the AIP are initiated outside Airservices. These changes are described in the change summary in the published document but are not included in the AIRAC briefing document.</p> <p>It is a requirement for all ATS staff to be fully familiar with all changes relevant to their duties.</p>		

MATS Changes

Title	Description of Change	Change Request Number
Parallel approaches - vectoring and establishing on final approach course or track	Parallel approaches - vectoring and establishing on final approach course or track	48779
VSS-M Conditions of use	Amend VSS-M conditions to allow for varying project baselines and location specific Implementation Safety Cases. Section(s) affected: 1.1.1 and 12.9.5	47823
NAPM to MATS Comms content	Moves requirements related to communications from NAPM to MATS, including forms for radio interference, frequency transfer conditions and Class G to Class G boundary coordination. Section(s) affected: 2.7.3, 6.1.3, 6.3.4	48875
Defence ATIS Exception - Workers with Hand Tools	Addition of a Defence exemption to MATS 3.1.1.6 to allow for limited vocabulary on Defence ATIS. Section(s) affected: 3.1.1	48780
AMBLS launch notification	Clarifies ATC requirements for notification to aircraft of AMBLS launches. Section(s) affected: 5.1.1	48775
PJE from RA and MOA	Parachuting aircraft assigned separation from MOA's are not currently assisted with specific ATC phraseology as is described for Restricted areas. Section(s) affected: 5.2.2	49097
Eligible surfaces for the application of RPAS shielded operations above the OLS	Expands shielded RPAS operations to be permitted within the outer horizontal surface and correct naming of the take-off climb surface. Section(s) affected: 5.3.4	48777
Approved designator GAM Air and Western Sky	Inclusion of GAM Air and removal of Western Sky from approved designators. Section affected: 6.2.1	49098
Close to the minimum	Updates the application of separation assurance techniques to manage speeds/times of aircraft when lateral and longitudinal separation is close to the minimum. Section(s) affected: 10.3.2	48864
Defence aircraft flight rules at initial point	Introduces to MATS for civil use the existing military procedure for automatic flight rules change for ADF and approved aircraft conducting a visual approach via military initial and pitch circuit pattern. Also updates naming convention for the approach. Section(s) affected: 12.5.5, 12.5.7	48776
Tower time recording	In preparation for JOP, recording of time within the tower environment for formation landing and take-off has been requested for inclusion in MATS. Section affected: 12.10.1	49094

AIP Changes

Where possible, references to noteworthy amendments have been included (references may not indicate all amendments relating to that topic). Minor editorial and format changes are not shown in this summary.

Meteorological Services. Contact details for the Bureau of Meteorology updated GEN 1.1 para 1.9 and GEN 3.5 para 1.1.

Significant Weather (SIGWX) Charts. Upper limits of SIGWX High charts updated. GEN 3.5 para 4.4.

Radio Altimeter Usage. Added details on radio altimeter usage requirements and details. GEN 1.5 section 6 and AD 1.1 para 3.4.

Departmental Updates. General updates to Departmental Information. GEN 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 and 1.6.