



Director Notice of Direction to Safeguard Security Enhanced Areas 2026

This Notice is made under section 154 of the Civil Aviation Act 2023 (the Act) by the Director of Civil Aviation after believing on reasonable grounds that a security risk exists and considering sections 5, 5A, 11 and 12 of the Aviation Crimes Act 1972.

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1. Title

This Notice is the Director Notice of Direction to Safeguard Security Enhanced Areas 2026.

2. Commencement

This Notice comes into force on 26 August 2026.

3. Interpretation

For the purposes of clarity, the following definitions apply:

Act means the Civil Aviation Act 2023

Authorised Aviation Security Service Provider has the same meaning given in section 5 of the Act

Security enhanced area means an area that the Director has declared to be a security enhanced area under section 121 of the Act.

Thing has the same meaning given in section 133 of the Act

4. Direction to require searching

I hereby direct authorised aviation security service providers as follows:

Part I – Searching

1. In a random and unpredictable manner and in accordance with the powers of aviation security officers as described in section 141 of the Act and the requirements of Civil Aviation Rule Part 140 A.25, undertake reasonable searches of any:
 - a) Person, thing or vehicle
 - i. Before entering a **security enhanced area**, or
 - ii. Present in a **security enhanced area**
 - b) Any unattended thing or vehicle in a **security enhanced area**.
2. Reasonable searches are to be undertaken in respect of the items listed in Schedule A of this Notice for the purposes of safeguarding civil aviation against acts of unlawful interference as defined in Civil Aviation Rule Part 1.
3. The searching referred to in paragraph 1 of this Part and carried out by aviation security officers is not required if the Director of Civil Aviation directs in writing that searching is unnecessary in particular circumstances.

Part II – Seizing

1. In accordance with section 154(5) of the Act, seize and detain any item or substance specified in Schedule A of this Notice, unless:

a) There are reasonable grounds to believe that there is lawful authority or reasonable excuse for the item to enter and remain within the security enhanced area.

Schedule A – Items Prohibited from Entering or Remaining in the Security Enhanced Area

Subject to Part II a) of this Notice, reasonable searching and seizing referred to in Parts I and II should ensure that the following items are prohibited from entering or remaining in the security enhanced area:

- a) Explosives and incendiary substances and devices capable of being used to commit an act of unlawful interference, including:
 - i. dynamite, gunpowder and plastic explosives
 - ii. mines, grenades and other explosive military stores
 - iii. detonators and fuses
 - iv. blasting caps
 - v. pyrotechnics, including fireworks
 - vi. smoke-generating canisters or cartridges
 - vii. ammunition
 - viii. replica or imitation explosive devices.
- b) Guns, firearms and other devices that discharge projectiles designed to cause serious injury by discharging a projectile, or capable of being mistaken for such devices, including:
 - i. firearms of all types including pistols, revolvers, rifles and shotguns
 - ii. component parts of firearms, excluding telescopic sights
 - iii. compressed air and carbon dioxide guns, including pistols, pellet guns, rifles and ball bearing guns
 - iv. signal flare pistols and starter pistols
 - v. bows, crossbows and arrows
 - vi. harpoon guns and spear guns
 - vii. slingshots and catapults
 - viii. toy guns, replicas and imitation firearms capable of being mistaken for real weapons.
- c) Stunning devices designed specifically to stun or immobilise, including:
 - i. devices for shocking such as stun guns and stun batons
 - ii. animal stunners and animal killers
 - iii. disabling and incapacitating chemicals, gases and sprays such as mace, pepper or capsicum sprays, acid sprays, animal repellent sprays and tear gas.
- d) Any dangerous or offensive weapon, item or substance capable of being used to endanger the safety of an aircraft or cause bodily injury.

Dated at Wellington this *24th* day of *July* 2026


Kane Patena, Director of Civil Aviation

Explanatory Note

This note is not part of the Notice but is intended to indicate its general effect.

This Notice, which comes into force on 26 August 2026, replaces the [Director Notice of Direction to Safeguard Security Enhanced Areas 2025](#).

This Notice is secondary legislation and is published by the Civil Aviation Authority on its website and notified in the *Gazette* as required by the Legislation Act 2019. It sets out the direction given by the Director of Civil Aviation to authorised aviation security service providers that all or any of the powers conferred on aviation security officers under Part 5 of the Act apply as necessary to detect the items or substances specified in the direction.

This is secondary legislation issued under the authority of the Legislation Act 2019	
Title	Director Notice of Direction to Safeguard Security Enhanced Areas 2026
Empowering Act	Civil Aviation Act 2023
Empowering provision(s)	Section 154
Maker Name	Kane Patena, Director of Civil Aviation
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