



31 March 2026

## **MAA/RI/2026/05 – Programme Directors (that support Senior Responsible Owners) attendance at the Duty Holder Air Safety Course**

### **Issue**

The Military Aviation Authority (MAA) is issuing an update to Regulatory Article (RA) 1440 – Air Safety Training – Issue 13 which includes an addition to those personnel required to attend the Duty Holder Air Safety Course (DHASC).

### **Scope**

This Regulatory Instruction (RI) relates to the need for Programme Directors (that support Senior Responsible Owners (SRO)) for air platform programmes, to attend the DHASC.

### **Aim**

This RI is to inform Programme Directors (that support SROs) of the changes being introduced in RA 1440 – Issue 13.

### **Implementation**

This RI is effective from 31 March 2026 until 31 March 2027.

### **Background / Introduction**

It has been identified that the SRO construct that manages programmes across Defence, often delegates day-to-day management of singular platform programmes to lower-level Programme Directors (typically OF5). This is to ensure that enhanced control, scrutiny, leadership and management is exercised across these complex programmes on behalf of the SRO. SROs are already required to attend DHASC. There is a requirement to ensure that Programme Directors are also afforded the advanced competency and qualification provided by the DHASC. This is to ensure that a suitably qualified person has daily exposure to, and influence over Air Safety matters that develop within these programmes. This will allow Air Safety issues to be addressed further upstream in complex air platform programmes, before they escalate into the in-service Duty Holding space.

### **Transitional Arrangements**

The MAA recognizes that time is required for Programme Directors to successfully complete the DHASC. To support this, a transitional period of 12 months will be in place.

### **Queries**

Any observations or requests for further guidance on the content of this RI should be submitted by email to [DSA-MAA-MRPEnquiries@mod.gov.uk](mailto:DSA-MAA-MRPEnquiries@mod.gov.uk).

### **MAA Head Regulation and Certification**



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