

2026 No. 54

CIVIL AVIATION

The Air Navigation (Restriction of Flying) (SS Richard Montgomery) (Restricted Area EG R162) Regulations 2026

Made - - - - 21st January 2026

Coming into force - - 19th February 2026

The Secretary of State has decided that it is necessary in the public interest to restrict flying in the area specified in regulation 2(1) for reasons of public safety associated with the location there of the vessel SS Richard Montgomery.

The Secretary of State makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by article 239 of the Air Navigation Order 2016(a).

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Air Navigation (Restriction of Flying) (SS Richard Montgomery) (Restricted Area EG R162) Regulations 2026 and they come into force on 19th February 2026.

Restricted airspace

2.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), no aircraft is to fly below 13,200 feet above mean sea level within the area bounded by a circle having a radius of 0.5 of a nautical mile centred at 512758N 0004712E.

(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to any aircraft—

- (a) flying in response to an emergency and operated by or on behalf of—
 - (i) a Police Air Support Unit,
 - (ii) an Emergency Medical Service, or
 - (iii) the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, or
- (b) operating with a written permission issued by the Secretary of State.

Revocation of Regulations

3. The Air Navigation (Restriction of Flying) (SS Richard Montgomery) Regulations 2025(b) and the Air Navigation (Restriction of Flying) (SS Richard Montgomery) (Amendment) Regulations 2025(c) are revoked.

(a) S.I. 2016/765, amended by S.I. 2024/990; there are other amending instruments but none is relevant.
(b) S.I. 2025/547.
(c) S.I. 2025/822.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Transport

21st January 2026

Karen L Michaels
Grade 7
Department for Transport

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations impose restrictions on flying in the vicinity of the wrecked vessel SS Richard Montgomery near Sheerness, Kent.

The Civil Aviation Authority and the Department for Transport agree that flying should be restricted in the vicinity of the vessel for reasons of public safety.

In relation to the permissions mentioned in regulation 2(2)(b) the Secretary of State may be contacted as notified.

Full details of this Statutory Instrument will be included in the United Kingdom Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP). The restricted area has been designated as EG R162 for the purpose of inclusion in the AIP and in related charts and documents.

The point of contact in the Civil Aviation Authority is Mr David Ridley, Airspace Regulator, Safety and Airspace Regulation Group, on telephone number 03301 382471.