



## **Press Release: Misleading CAA Advertising Causes Industry Concerns**

*Approved by UAVNZ Executive Committee on 12 May 2022*

Over the last few weeks, the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has used Facebook advertising to target the general public in an attempt to educate potential drone users. Like the CAA, UAVNZ considers aviation safety of paramount importance and we want to see such initiatives happen. However, we have some concerns about some of the messaging, particularly an advertisement about “no fly zones” that began running last week.

Our concerns are as follows:

1. The term “no fly zones” does not exist under the Civil Aviation Rules<sup>1</sup> for neither manned aircraft nor drones, rather, there are requirements that have to be met to fly in certain airspace (e.g., to fly a drone within 4km of an aerodrome)
2. The use of the term “no fly zones” could create confusion because the public will believe that they cannot operate in those areas under any circumstances. This is a lost opportunity for the CAA to help educate drone users and the public about how to safely operate in those areas of airspace by meeting their conditions (usually through correct operating procedures, qualifications, and/or certification).
3. The headline item of “no fly zones” will adversely affect compliant operators who are correctly operating within a certain airspace (e.g., within 4km of an aerodrome) because the general public will begin to believe that what they are doing is illegal – this has a direct consequence for our members who already receive police callouts due to concerned members of the public believing that they are breaking the law, even though they are exercising their additional privileges granted under Part 102 of the Civil Aviation Rules or using the nuances of Part 101 to carry out the operation in a compliant manner.

UAVNZ has offered assistance with the wording and formatting of the CAA’s Facebook advertisements related to drones. We all would like to see reliable information being

---

<sup>1</sup> To verify this, you can navigate to [Part 1](#) (definitions and abbreviations), [Part 71](#) (designation and classification of airspace), and Parts [101](#) and [102](#) (concerning drone operations) and search for “no fly zone”.



distributed about where and how drones can be safely operated. However, the current messaging does not achieve that. UAVNZ calls on CAA to remove the “no fly zone” advertisement and keep future messaging consistent with the Civil Aviation Rules.

**For more information or comments, contact Isaac Henderson 022 222 6425**



## **About UAVNZ**

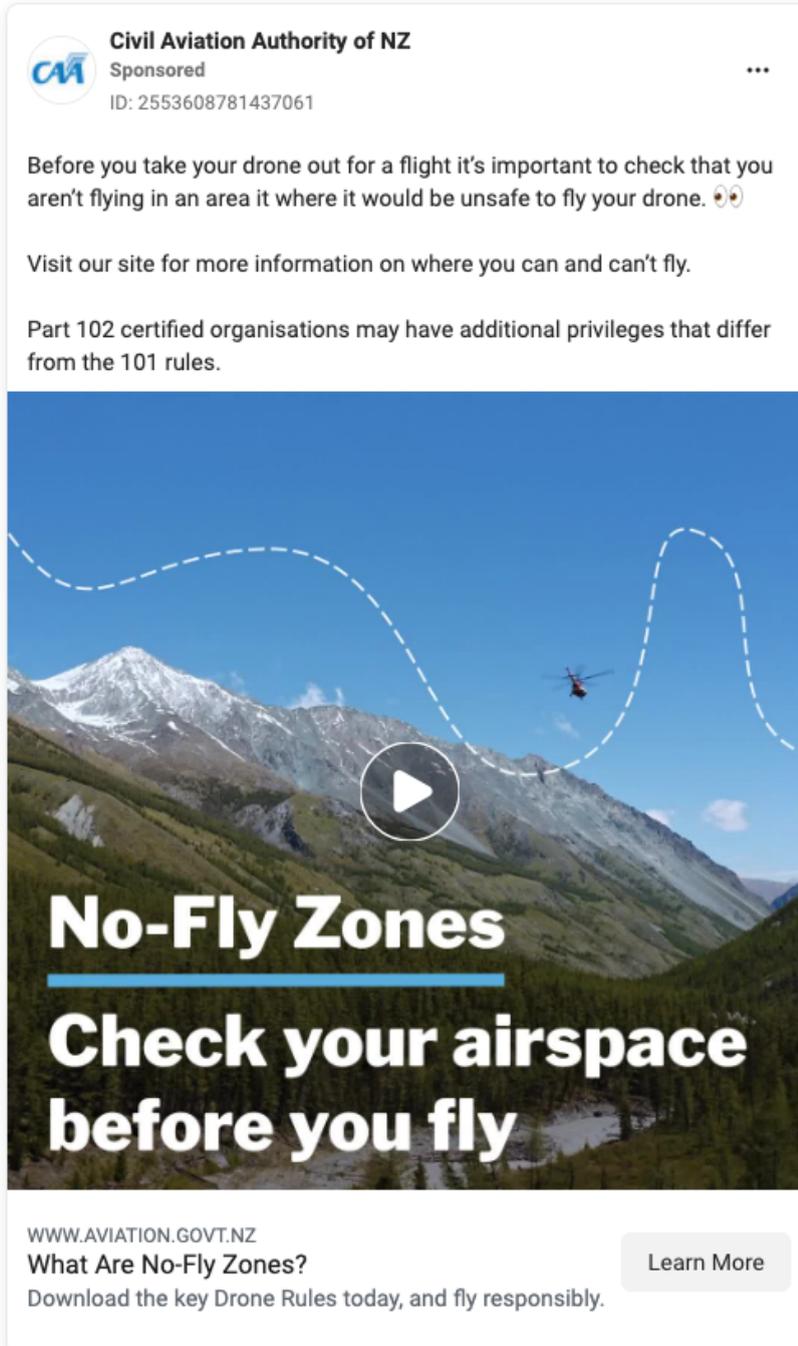
UAVNZ is a division of Aviation New Zealand. It is an industry body that represents the commercial unmanned aerospace sector within New Zealand, and also a professional body setting standards of best practice. The organisation currently has five objectives:

- To build public understanding of commercial unmanned aircraft operations
- To support policy work relating to the unmanned aerospace sector
- To grow the NZ UAV Market
- To develop best practice and set standards for airworthiness
- To advocate on behalf of the commercial unmanned aerospace sector

As a division of Aviation New Zealand, we work with our sister divisions that cover all facets of manned aviation. Companies that are members of UAVNZ need to sign our code of professional conduct. They are primarily companies that undertake commercial operations using unmanned aircraft, but we also include other professional operators (e.g., for scientific research). A number of members also provide support services like training, maintenance, and software.

Screenshot of the advertisement as at 12 May 2022

## About the ad



**Civil Aviation Authority of NZ**  
Sponsored  
ID: 2553608781437061

Before you take your drone out for a flight it's important to check that you aren't flying in an area it where it would be unsafe to fly your drone. 🙄

Visit our site for more information on where you can and can't fly.

Part 102 certified organisations may have additional privileges that differ from the 101 rules.

**No-Fly Zones**  
**Check your airspace before you fly**

WWW.AVIATION.GOV.T.NZ  
**What Are No-Fly Zones?**  
Download the key Drone Rules today, and fly responsibly.

Learn More

To check whether it is still active and to view the other advertisements in the campaign, please go to:

[https://www.facebook.com/ads/library/?active\\_status=all&ad\\_type=all&country=ALL&view\\_all\\_page\\_id=969967523187395&search\\_type=page&media\\_type=all](https://www.facebook.com/ads/library/?active_status=all&ad_type=all&country=ALL&view_all_page_id=969967523187395&search_type=page&media_type=all)