



# Submission on developing the Aotearoa New Zealand Aerospace Strategy

## Your name and organisation

Name	Paul Elwell-Sutton
Organisation (if applicable)	

## Overview of the Aerospace Strategy

Please type your submission below. If applicable, please indicate the question(s) to which you are responding.





Questions 1 & 2:

For the purpose of contributing to a just peace globally, there needs to be a very explicit prohibition on the development of, manufacture of and/or contribution to military- and lethal-purpose autonomous aerial vehicles and devices plus, the firmware, software, and installations, mobile and fixed, to launch, guide and otherwise support them, from New Zealand's lands, waters and aerospace, as well as from overseas jurisdictions, if the organisations involved are operating or based in, in full or in part, in New Zealand.

The use of New Zealand's lands, waters and aerospace for the development, manufacture and/or support of military-purpose (including for surveillance and targeting purposes) aerospace hardware must be unconditionally prohibited, and not linked to any trade and investment agreements.

New Zealand needs to pursue an international strategy of peaceful non-alignment, for the sake of the wellbeing of our citizens, and those of our Pacific nation neighbours. Having an aerospace industry focused entirely on peaceful civilian operations will be vital to achieving that status.

The term "Sustainable" needs to be tightly defined, especially in the light of the energy requirements of the aerospace sector. Currently, it is likely that no aerospace ventures are energy neutral in their use of renewable and non-renewable energy sources, so would be unsustainable. Renewable energy sources are still constrained by human demand versus what Nature can supply.

Addressing, in a meaningful and measurable way, the broader environmental effects of the proposed aerospace sector, must inform the strategy. All human activities have an environmental effect, whether collectively or individually.

The strategy must include practical and binding measures to overcome these barriers, if it is to succeed.

Regarding sustainability, the strategy must also address the issue of emissions associated with the use of aerospace. Offsetting emissions by planting trees, in NZ or overseas, is unlikely to be effective: <<https://tinyurl.com/44max74w>>.

Unless the issues of militarism/weaponry and emissions/environment are effectively and durably addressed, I cannot support the strategy, and I believe the strategy will fail.





## Area One - A strategy for building our aerospace sector

Please type your submission below. If applicable, please indicate the question(s) to which you are responding.

Question 6: See my response to questions 1 and 2.





## Area Two - Building strong foundations (Three Pillars)

Please type your submission below. If applicable, please indicate the question(s) to which you are responding.





Question 10: I would like to see a binding commitment to supporting only the peaceful, cooperative and non-aligned international use of aerospace, and the unequivocal opposition to the military and lethal use of aerospace, with New Zealand refraining from involvement in all such uses, at governmental and private level. No nation's military or military contractors, or private or commercial military supplier should be permitted to use New Zealand's land, air and/or water for any aerospace activities or purpose, including for military-oriented aerospace research, intelligence and surveillance.

In addition, I'd like to see clauses prohibiting New Zealand aerospace companies, or overseas aerospace companies operating in New Zealand, from participating in the human colonisation of space and/or the mining of celestial bodies for material gain.

Question 11: Strictly focus on:

- 1.) Peaceful, energy-efficient and constructive initiatives which are also emissions-neutral.
- 2.) Aerospace endeavours for which the primary goal is to collectively benefit all of humanity, and not for personal or corporate profit.





### Area Three - Goals for 2030

Please type your submission below. If applicable, please indicate the question(s) to which you are responding.

Question12: Avoiding the potential environmental effects of the aerospace sector must take primacy over all other considerations. The natural world is the foundation of our economy and our well-being, so cannot be sacrificed for the convenience of any sector, including aerospace.

For example, the damming of more waterways to provide more electrical power for 'sustainable' air passenger journeys should be seen for what it is; a destructive illusion, when what is needed is a change in human behaviour to "power down". No offsetting should be allowed, because that just 'kicks the can down the road'.

Question 13: Goal 2 deals with AAVs (Autonomous Aerial Vehicles). These must always be under direct human guidance, and military-purpose and lethal-purpose AAVs cannot be allowed into New Zealand, nor may any public, private or governmental entity use, develop, own, manufacture, operate or procure any such AAV in New Zealand.

New Zealand should have the maturity and insight to focus on being a peaceful and just nation.

Lethal and military AAVs can have no place in our country.





## Area Four - Pathway to the 2030 Future State

Please type your submission below. If applicable, please indicate the question(s) to which you are responding.

