

Civil Aviation (Aerodromes) Order 2022
Police and SAR Helicopters Flying for Public Transport at Night:
Take-off or Landing Area

Background

1. The purpose of this Exemption is to allow Search and Rescue and Police helicopters to land at and take off from sites at night which do not have the required lighting and to discharge a person in charge of such a place from the responsibility of the provision of such lighting.

General Exemption

2. The Department for Enterprise ('the Department'), in exercise of its powers under article 9 of the Civil Aviation (Aerodromes) Order 2022¹ ('the Order'), exempts the person in charge of an operating site in the Isle of Man intended to be used for the take-off or landing of helicopters at night on a flight specified in paragraph 4 from the requirement at article 12(1) of the Order (see Note 1).
3. The Department further exempts any helicopter, together with the operator and commander thereof, flying on a flight at night for the purpose of the commercial air transport of passengers, as specified in paragraph 4, from the requirement at article 12(2) of the Order (see Note 2).
4. The flights referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 are:
 - (a) a Search and Rescue flight conducted under and in accordance with an air operator's certificate;
 - (b) a flight conducted under and in accordance with the terms of a police air operator's certificate.
5. This Exemption only applies if the operator has ensured that the helicopter is equipped with a suitable means of illumination (see Note 3) acceptable to the Department to enable the pilot:
 - (a) when landing, to identify the landing area whilst in flight, to determine the landing direction and to make a safe approach and landing; and
 - (b) when taking off, to make a safe take-off.
6. In this General Exemption an operating site means a landing and take-off area, other than an aerodrome as detailed at article 8(2) of the Order, selected by the operator or commander for landing and take-off.
7. This General Exemption supersedes Exemption 2022/067, which is hereby revoked.

Date in force

8. This General Exemption has effect from **01/04/2023** until **31/03/2025**, both dates inclusive, unless previously revoked.

For and on behalf of the Department for Enterprise:

Isle of Man Civil Aviation Administration
Ground Floor, Viscount House
Isle of Man Airport, IM9 2AS

¹ SD No. 2022/0074

Explanatory notes

1. Article 12(1) provides that the person in charge must cause there to be in operation, whenever a helicopter flying for the purpose of the public transport of passengers is taking off or landing at that area at night, such lighting as will enable the pilot of the helicopter:
 - a) when landing, to identify the landing area in flight, to determine the landing direction and to make a safe approach and landing; and
 - b) when taking off, to make a safe take-off.
2. Art 12(2) provides that a helicopter flying for the purpose of the public transport of passengers at night must not take off or land at a place to which Art 12(1) applies unless there is in operation such lighting.
3. A suitable means of illumination would be a white light that is trainable, and which enables the pilot to locate and identify obstacles on the ground, on the approach to landing and the departure route, from a height of at least 500 feet.

End of explanatory notes