

Miscellaneous

No: 1635

Air Navigation Order 2016

Publication date: 03 October 2025

General Exemption E 6442

Radio Altimeter – River Thames Routes – Helicopters (Public Transport)

Background

- 1) The purpose of this Exemption is to provide alleviation from the requirement to carry a radio altimeter for any flight over water of more than a total of 3 minutes for Non-Part-21 helicopters when conducting Public Transport operations over the River Thames. It is issued in order to align Public Transport operations equipment requirements with the equipment requirements of Commercial Air Transport operations and achieve a level playing field for operators of non-part 21 aircraft.

Interpretation

- 2) Non-Part 21 has the same meaning as provided in article 64 of the Air Navigation Order 2016 (“the Order”): an aircraft which, when conducting the flight or operation, is not subject to any of Annexes III to VIII of the Air Operations Regulation, UK Regulation (EU) 965/2012.

Exemption

- 3) The Civil Aviation Authority, in exercise of its powers under Article 266 of ‘the Order’, hereby exempts any Non-Part-21 helicopter, together with the operator and Pilot-in-Command thereof, from compliance with the requirements of Article 119 and paragraph 4(12)(v)(dd) of Schedule 6, Part 1, to, the Order, to carry the radio altimeter equipment specified in paragraph 5, Scale EE(1) of Schedule 6, Part 1, subject to the condition set out in paragraph 4) below.
- 4) This Exemption only applies to any helicopter conducting Public Transport operations and flying above that part of the River Thames contained between Kew Bridge and the Isle of Dogs with the permission of, and in accordance with, any instructions given by the appropriate air traffic control unit.
- 5) This Exemption supersedes Official Record Series 4 No.1588, which is revoked.

Date in Force

- 6) This Exemption has effect from the date it is signed until 31 October 2029, both dates inclusive, unless previously revoked.

M Macdonald
for the Civil Aviation Authority

03 October 2025