

Miscellaneous**No:** 1643**Air Navigation Order 2016****Publication date:** 15 January 2026**Rules of the Air Regulations 2015****General Exemption E6513 and Permission**

Emergency Services Helicopters Landing and Taking Off – Near Open-Air Assemblies; and at Sites Other Than an Aerodrome Within in a Congested Area**Background**

- 1) This is a replacement exemption and permission to change the title to remove ambiguity. The exemption provides for Emergency Services Helicopters to land and take-off closer than 1000m of an organised open-air assembly of people. The permission allows Emergency Services Helicopters to take off or land and at a site other than an aerodrome, in a congested area subject to certain conditions. Both are subject to conditions.

Interpretation

- 2) In this exemption and permission:
 - a) 'Emergency Services Helicopter' means any helicopter for the time being operated under an Air Operator Certificate or Police Air Operator Certificate granted by the CAA for Search and Rescue operations or for a Helicopter Emergency Medical Service or in the service of a police authority; and
 - b) other terms used have the same meaning as in Schedule 1 of the Air Navigation Order 2016 as amended.

Exemption and Permission

- 3) The Civil Aviation Authority ('the CAA'), in exercise of its powers under article 266 of the Air Navigation Order 2016 ('the Order'), exempts any helicopter for the time being operated as an Emergency Services Helicopter from the requirements of Rule 5(2)(b) of the Rules of the Air Regulations 2015 when landing or taking off near an organised open-air assembly of more than 1,000 persons subject to the conditions in paragraph 5.
- 4) The CAA, pursuant to Rule 5(1)(b) of the Rules of the Air Regulations 2015, additionally permits any helicopter for the time being operated by as an Emergency Services Helicopter to take-off or land at a landing site which is not an aerodrome within a congested area subject to the conditions in paragraph 5.

- 5) The conditions specified in paragraphs 3 and 4 are that:
 - a) the take-off and landing shall be conducted in accordance with procedures specified in the Emergency Services Helicopter operator's operations manual;
 - b) the operator shall make a record of the occasions on which flights pursuant to this exemption or permission are made; and
 - c) any record required to be made pursuant to this exemption or permission shall be retained by the operator for 12 months and shall, within a reasonable time of being demanded by an authorised person, be produced by the operator to that authorised person.
- 6) General exemption E5455 and permission issued under ORS4 No.1493 are hereby revoked.

Date in Force

- 7) This exemption and permission have effect from the date they are signed until they are revoked.

M Macdonald

15 January 2026