

## Follow-up Action on Occurrence Report

ACCIDENT TO AS332L2, G-WNSB, WEST OF SUMBURGH AIRPORT, SCOTLAND  
ON 23 AUGUST 2013

CAA FACTOR NUMBER : F5/2013  
FACTOR PUBLICATION DATE : 29 November 2013  
TYPE OF FLIGHT : Commercial Air Transport  
CAA OCCURRENCE NUMBER : 201310649  
AAIB REPORT : S7/2013

### SYNOPSIS

From AAIB Report

At 1717 hrs on 23 August 2013, an AS332 L2 Super Puma Helicopter, with 18 persons on board, crashed into the sea whilst on approach to Sumburgh Airport in the Shetland Islands. Four of the passengers did not survive.

### FOLLOW UP ACTION

#### Recommendation 2013-021

It is recommended that the operator of Sumburgh Airport, Highlands and Islands Airports Limited, provides a water rescue capability, suitable for all tidal conditions, for the area of sea to the west of Sumburgh, appropriate to the hazard of risk, for times when the weather conditions and sea state are conducive to such rescue operations.

#### CAA Response

This Recommendation is not addressed to the CAA but will be monitored.

**CAA Status - Open**

#### Recommendation 2013-022

It is recommended that the Civil Aviation Authority review the risks associated with the current water rescue provision for the area of sea to the west of Sumburgh Airport and take appropriate action.

#### CAA Response

The CAA accepts this Recommendation and is in the process of conducting a review of the risks associated with the current water rescue provision for the area of sea to the West of Sumburgh airport.

Highlands and Islands Airports Ltd. (HIAL), the operator of Sumburgh Airport, is currently reviewing the water rescue provision to the area of sea west of Sumburgh and the CAA has met with the HIAL Corporate Team to discuss their review and any subsequent plans to mitigate the associated risks. The CAA has also visited Sumburgh Airport to view the current water rescue facilities at the airport in both high and low tide conditions. These visits have been followed up by a letter, requiring HIAL to provide an initial response to the CAA by 30 November 2013. This response should include an action plan for the works to be carried out to ensure a fit for purpose slipway is provided at the Toebsgeo launch site on the airport or at an alternative launch site(s) to the west of the airport, with timescales included. The CAA will closely monitor the progress of the review being undertaken by HIAL and will take any further appropriate action to ensure that the risks associated with the current water rescue provision are being suitably addressed.

**CAA Status - Open**