

# **STATES of ALDERNEY**

# **Air Transport Route Licensing Statement**

# Background: Jersey, Guernsey (freight only) and Cherbourg

Following applications made to the States of Alderney, the Alderney Air Transport Licensing Board has agreed Air Route licences for Air Alderney to operate the Alderney to Jersey (passengers and freight) and the Alderney to Guernsey (freight only) routes. The application was made to operate the routes throughout the year using an EC 155 B1 helicopter leased from Heli Holland Air Service B.V and operating under a Netherlands Air Operators Certificate.

Although an application was made for the Alderney Cherbourg route, this does not require a route licence under the legislation as the flights begin or end in a place outside the British Islands. The Jersey Route does not require a licence from the States of Jersey. The Alderney – Guernsey Freight-only route does also need to have a license issued by the States of Guernsey.

# Lee-on-Solent Route

It is a requirement under the Air Transport Licensing (Alderney) Law, 1996 that a Route Licence must be supported by an Air Operators Certificate (issued by the Civil Aviation Authority) for the aircraft that is to be used on the route.

An application for a route licence to carry passengers and freight between Alderney and Lee on Solent using the EC 155 B1 leased helicopter has been submitted and is currently under consideration by the Alderney Transport Licensing Board. Air Alderney does not yet have an operating certificate for a fixed wing aircraft.

# How are decisions made about Air Transport Route Licences?

The criteria that the Licensing Board has to take into consideration are set out under the Air Transport Licensing legislation and the Policy Statement agreed by the States. This requires the Board to consider:

- the financial fitness and technical capabilities of the airline;
- ability to maintain year-round scheduled services of sufficient capacity to cater for all user categories:
- value for money in the fare structure consistent with viable operations;
- continuity of service from year to year;
- enabling point-to-point travel and interlining opportunities; and
- securing high standards of service.

In addition to these criteria, where the application may have a potential impact on an existing operator or route, the Air Transport Licencing Board must consider:

- (i) the number and nature of aircraft in an airline's fleet, with particular concern for the back up arrangements that could apply to the route;
- (ii) the ability of an airline to replace the capacity provided by an incumbent operator, should the introduction of further competition lead to the withdrawal of the latter from the route, in part or in whole;
- (iii) an airline's performance on other routes (e.g. punctuality, customer service); and
- (v) the ability to expand operations through a successful marketing campaign

and to cope with the traffic growth generated from this.

In applying for an Air Transport Route Licence, there is an obligation on the applicant to provide sufficient information to enable the Board to be able to make the considerations set out in the law.

The States of Alderney recognises the importance of encouraging new investment in air transport and offers support and guidance to applicants where required.