



Access to Public Information Request

Date of receipt: 29th November 2019

Date of response: 23rd December 2019

Guernsey Airport Charging of Search and Rescue Operations and Medical Evacuations

Request for information:

I am requesting the following under the Code of Practice for Access to Public Information.

On the early hours of January 22nd 2019, and again at approximately at 0115 on 29th November 2019 Guernsey Airport was opened after midnight for the purpose of facilitating Search and Rescue operations.

According to the published fees of Guernsey Airport, a fee of £4,600 per aircraft movement is applicable between 0000 and standard opening time of the airport (usually 0600) up to the end of March 2019 and £5,060 after March.

Can you please confirm if charges were raised for the aircraft carrying out these search and rescue operations, notably Air Search One, and the UK Coastguard Helicopter Rescue 175. If the fees were raised, were these the full published rates, or if discounted, what discount was applied. E.g. was the UK Coastguard charged for Rescue 175 to land and take off during these hours, and if so what were they charged. If they were not charged, what rules apply for the non-charging of hours of hours airport use, and which specific agencies and aircraft are granted this freedom from charges.

Response from General Manager – Ports Colin Le Ray from Guernsey Airport

Guernsey Airport does not routinely charge for flight movements where those aircraft are tasked on Search and Rescue (SAR) activities. This policy of non-charging applied to aircraft tasked with such operations on 22nd January 2019, specifically Channel Islands Air Search and HM Coastguard Helicopter.

On 29th November 2019, Guernsey Airport's aerodrome was opened after midnight. This was to allow a Medical Evacuation flight to take place utilising an HM Coastguard helicopter from the UK. As this was not an SAR activity, the total cost billed to the Committee *for*

Employment and Social Security for opening Guernsey Airport on the night of 29th November 2019 was £10,496.26. The charges related to airport extension charges and aircraft fees and there were no discounts applied.

Ends

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