

UK National Private Pilot Licence – Exemptions for Guernsey and Jersey Airspace (including Alderney)

Explanatory Note

1. Background

Following a consultation process with interested parties in both the Channel Islands and the United Kingdom, the Director of Civil Aviation (DCA) for Guernsey and for Jersey has decided to issue general exemptions to permit holders of a UK NPPL to fly in Channel Islands airspace. This includes flying through the Channel Islands Control Zone and to the aerodromes of Alderney, Guernsey and Jersey. The consultation was conducted with pilot representative bodies and with the airport and air traffic service providers in Guernsey and Jersey.

2. Scope

The Exemptions are directed to holders of the UK National Private Pilot's Licence and pilots exercising the privileges of the NPPL. This includes those holders of full ICAO Private Pilot Licences and higher licences issued by the United Kingdom Civil Aviation Authority who have elected to fly to NPPL privileges based on their chosen method of medical certification (in accordance with NPPL rather than ICAO Class 2 requirements) or because they have arranged to renew or revalidate their licence to the NPPL requirements.

3. Validity

The exemptions are valid from the date thereon for 12 months. The DCA intends to re-issue the exemptions at their renewal date for a further 12 months subject to the experience in the Channel Islands of NPPL holders operations there being satisfactory. Taking account of developments in Europe of a pan-European Light Aircraft Pilot Licence, the DCA further intends to recognise that licence when it becomes available, subject to conditions considered appropriate at the time.

4. Conditions

Pilots flying under these exemptions do so subject to the conditions stated in the text.

- a. They have effect only in the airspace specified

- b. The privileges, conditions and limitations, if any, imposed by the UK Air Navigation Order apply also whilst operating in the Channel Islands
- c. The exemptions apply to holder of licences other than the NPPL whilst exercising the privileges of the NPPL
- d. Flying for the purpose of public transport is prohibited. Flying for the purpose of aerial work is limited to the cases indicated in the exemption. For clarification, this includes the possibility of remunerated instruction in Permit aircraft in accordance with existing UK rules.
- e. The normal NPPL medical requirements apply, including any restriction regarding the carrying of passengers
- f. An additional condition is imposed to ensure that the safety concerns of stakeholders are mitigated. Condition 2 f) is directed primarily at *ab initio* NPPL holders to ensure that they have had appropriate experience of a long sea crossing such as would be experienced flying from the UK mainland to one of the Channel Islands. The familiarisation flight may be flown with a CRI, FI or other qualified pilot who has experience of making such a crossing to the Channel Islands. Completion of the flight shall be evidenced by the signature of a CRI or FI in the pilot's personal flying log book. A familiarisation flight is not required of those pilots who hold or have held a PPL or higher licence. However, any pilot who feels unsure of himself due to lack of experience or recency is advised to make use of the services of a CRI, FI or experience pilot in the manner intended in condition 2f).
- g. As a reminder, the minimum flight visibility for special VFR flights within the CICZ is 10 km. When exercising the privileges of the NPPL the aircraft must not be flown out of the sight of the surface, at night or in circumstances which require compliance with the Instrument Flight Rules.

It is considered sensible that pilots wishing to take advantage of this exemption should carry a photocopy of it with their pilot licence.

5. Publicity

It is anticipated that the issue of these exemptions will be publicised through the websites and membership magazines as appropriate, of AOPA, LAA and the NPPL Group.

6. Feedback

Pilots are invited to comment on the exemptions either via their pilot representative body or direct to dca@gov.gg or dca@gov.ie