

MEDIA RELEASE

**EMBARGOED UNTIL**

**1700 HRS ON WEDNESDAY 10 JUNE 2009**

**GUERNSEY AIRPORT TO HOLD FULL EMERGENCY EXERCISE**

Guernsey Airport will be holding a full emergency exercise tonight (Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2009) from 1830 hrs. The day and time of the exercise has been planned to least inconvenience the airlines and the participating external emergency services.

The exercise will involve all of the 'blue light' emergency services, together with a number of actor's, playing the part of casualties.

To add to the realism of the event, a small aircraft fuselage will be placed on the exercise site (a field to the west of the Forest Road Water tower) and a number of controlled fires will be lit when the exercise commences.

To ensure procedures are fully tested the exercise will require an immediate response from the Airport Fire Service, as a result the airport will be closed for the duration of the exercise, re-opening no later than 2030 hours. The testing of emergency procedures in this way is required as part of the Airport's emergency planning requirements, which are routinely inspected by the Civil Aviation Authority.

Airport Management wishes to gratefully acknowledge the co-operation of all airlines and aircraft operators in planning for this event. Airline schedules have been re-arranged to accommodate the closure of the airport and where necessary extensions will be granted for airlines to operate the last returning flights to the island.

Members of the public are advised that there may be some traffic congestion around the Forest Road during the exercise and the Police will be moving traffic on along the road during the exercise.

/ENDS

**Note to Editors**

Any media representatives wishing to cover the exercise are asked to report to La Trelade Hotel no later than 18:10 hrs on Wednesday 10 June. They will then be given an initial brief, escorted to the exercise site. Interview opportunities and a guide on the exercise will be provided by the Airport Director and an Airport Fire Service Station Officer. Reporters and crews are asked to wear high visibility jackets.