

Response to action 353

Action no.353: Mr Payne/Mr Howson (CAA)

“Mr Payne/ Mr Howson to investigate North Sea helicopter types to establish whether all parts of the undercarriage are always positioned within the perimeter of the landing net.”

Kevin Payne has investigated and reports as follows:

“I have investigated North Sea types (present and recent past) and have come to the conclusion that there is no issue i.e. if positioned with the nose wheel on inner diameter of the yellow TD/PM circle there are adequate clearances in all cases:

Type	Dimension outer diameter of circle – minimum dimension covered by net (0.5D +2m)	Undercarriage length (nose wheel to main wheels)	Approx. clearance from rear wheels to net edge (assuming nose wheel located at inner diameter of the TD/PM circle)
S92	12.44	6.2	5.25
EC225	11.75	5.25	5.5
EC175	11.0	4.0	6.0
EC155	9.15	3.91	4.25
AS332L2	11.75	5.25	5.5
AS365N3	8.84	3.91	3.9
AW139	10.32	4.34	5.0
AW189	10.8	4.79	5.0
S76	10.0	5.0	4.0
S61	13.1	7.15 (main wheel to tail wheel)	4.95

We can confidently conclude there is ample clearance (i.e. net) behind the aircraft out to the edge of the circle which has no greater dimension than the net i.e. the net has to encompass the whole circle.”