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2010-053-047 178

CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

OFFICE FOR SCOTLAND BROOMHOUSE DRIVE EDINBURGH EH11 3XE

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Our reference: SCO 329/02

22 November 1972

Royal Burgh of Dornoch Town Council
Council Chambers
Carnegie Building
Dornoch

Dear Sir

METEOROLOGICAL REPORTS FROM SMALL AERODROMES

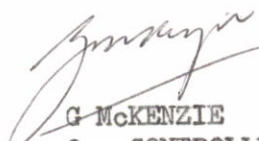
We have been asked by the Met Office to see if it would be possible to provide Met observations from certain small aerodromes. The aerodrome of Dornoch is one of the aerodromes ^{from} where it is suggested observations would be useful.

The Met Office have to provide forecasts for Dornoch at least two or three times a week and a series of observations starting about three hours before scheduled aircraft arrival times would be of great assistance to the forecaster. Regular observations on a daily basis would be even more welcome.

The observations would comprise cloud base and amount, visibility, wind velocity and present weather. An anemometer to measure wind velocity would be useful. Some training would be necessary for the person selected to make observations, a few weeks at one of the major airfield Met Offices is usual, and he would need to be a person of some intelligence to assimilate the training.

The observations would enable a better service to be given to pilots and your favourable consideration of this request would be appreciated.

Yours faithfully


G MCKENZIE
for CONTROLLER

IV25 3 SH

6th December, 1972.

Our Ref:5B

The Controller,
Civil Aviation Authority,
Broomhouse Drive,
EDINBURGH,
EH11 3XE

Dear Sir,

Meteorological Reports from Small Aerodromes

I refer to your letter of 22nd November, 1972 enquiring whether the Town Council would consider the appointment of a person to take readings at the Dornoch Air-Strip to enable the Met. Office to make regular weather forecasts for pilots etc..

The Town Council considered this matter at their meeting on 5th December, 1972 when they continued it for further information, having regard to the cost involved.

The Air-strip is only held under a private licence. Scheduled flights have only been on a Wednesday during the past season. The Town Council staff is very small and they only attend the Air-strip when required under the licence for scheduled flights in respect of fire-fighting arrangements.

You state that the person concerned would require to attend a special course at one of the major airfield Met. Offices to obtain the necessary experience, also that an Anemometer would require to be purchased. Would you please inform me of the length of the course and the cost involved, and any financial arrangement that might be made by the Met. Office in meeting the expenditure involved in the appointment, training etc., as it is doubtful if the Town Council have an appropriate person on their staff to meet the requirements. The Town Council staff is very limited, we have a Burgh squad of workmen totalling five in all and an office staff of three including myself. There is also an Interim Burgh Surveyor who is also employed full-time elsewhere and would not be available. I am sure you can see our staffing difficulties, and the additional expenditure that would be involved.

The development of the Air-strip was met from capital supplied by the Highland and Islands Development Board, Sutherland County Council and the Town Council. We have already exceeded considerably the original estimated cost of development.

I shall be glad to receive any additional relative information you may be able to supply in connection with your suggestion of the proposed appointment.

Yours faithfully,



Town Clerk.