

Don't panic – it's just an exercise at Edinburgh Airport



If you are in the vicinity of Edinburgh Airport tomorrow then don't worry is the message from the airport owners.

They are going to be holding the annual compulsory live action training exercise tomorrow evening, testing the effectiveness of the airport's emergency plan, in a fairly remote area of the airport, away from the terminal building.

The airport will stage a realistic simulation of an aircraft accident and will then activate its full emergency procedure. The exercise, involving multiple agencies from across Edinburgh and the Lothians, including the council, police and fire services, fulfils the annual Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) requirement for licensing of aerodromes.

"Please be aware that between 1900 hours and 2200 hours on Wednesday 18 September passengers and members of the public will see emergency services, blue flashing lights and smoke on a remote area of the airfield. They are advised not to contact the emergency services or to worry. This exercise will not affect normal operations and no disruption will be caused to passengers travelling through the terminal.

Live exercises provide many benefits and opportunities for the airport's wide range of services, agencies and departments to test the application of plans and deployment of resources in a fully monitored manner. It provides an opportunity to learn from each other and to improve airport processes and procedures."

The Edinburgh Reporter can remember being involved in one of these exercises some time back. As a patient and being told

that you have two broken legs and two broken arms, there is little acting to be done...