Airport to carry out live exercise on Wednesday

Edinburgh Airport will tomorrow (Wednesday) carry out a live exercise — and has asked for passengers, the general public and media to not be alarmed by simulation of a fuel farm incident and the response to it from the emergency services.

The live exercise will involve a report being received from Air Traffic Control of an inbound helicopter with a loss of communications. Soon after there will be secondary reports of an explosion at the Fuel Farm which initially realise the possibility of an act of terrorism.

Commenting, Edinburgh Airport Chief Executive Gordon Dewar, said:

"On Wednesday afternoon Edinburgh Airport will carry out a live exercise. We are doing this because we are completely committed to the highest possible safety standards for our passengers and staff.

"This live exercise and the response to it will look real as its purpose is to test our procedures and responses as a live indecent would — but I would ask people looking on to not be alarmed and to not try to come close.

"Live exercises provide so many benefits and opportunities for the wide range of services, agencies and departments to test the application of plans and deployment of resources in a fully monitored manner.

"Thankfully, for the majority of us a live exercise of this type is the only exposure we may ever have to anything like a real incident. It provides an opportunity to learn from each other, identify both strengths — and where improvements may be implemented — in what we all do, record findings and to improve our processes and procedures."