

REPORT TO: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - 15TH AUGUST 2005
REPORT ON: THE REPLACEMENT OF CLOUDBASE MEASURING EQUIPMENT AT DUNDEE AIRPORT
REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
REPORT NO.: 465-2005

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To recommend the letting of a contract for the replacement of cloudbase measuring equipment at Dundee Airport

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that a contract should be let to Met Engineering Ltd, to supply, install and commission a Vaisala CL31 Laser Ceilometer system at Dundee Airport, at a cost of £22,330, plus VAT, not including an estimated sum of £4,000 for the formation of a platform for the unit on the roof of the airport services building, and the installation of electrical supplies. These accommodation works will be carried out by a separate contract, let locally.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The approved Airport Financial Plan for 2005-06 contains an allowance of £30,000 for this work to be carried out.

4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 None.

5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 None.

6 REPORT

6.1 An important part of the Air Traffic Control function at the airport is to advise pilots of the cloudbase in the vicinity of the airport. The normal means, until recently, of assessing the cloudbase involved a vertical searchlight and a specially calibrated gauge that allowed heights to be measured by triangulation. However cloudbase measurement has now been made much more efficient and accurate through laser technology. The searchlight / triangulation equipment at Dundee Airport therefore needs to be replaced in the interests of efficiency, but also because the current equipment is no longer supported by the manufacturer.

6.2 It is therefore proposed to install a Vaisala CL31 Laser Ceilometer, on the roof of a building adjacent to the Control Tower. Vaisala equipment is being specified for commonality with other ATC equipment at Dundee Airport, and in the interests of maintenance efficiency because Vaisala units are the dominant equipment at Scottish airports.

7 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) and Depute Chief Executive (Finance) have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None.

DOUGLAS A A GRIMMOND
DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

DATE: 8TH AUGUST 2005