

No: 12/89

Ref: EW/G89/10/6

Category: 2c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Robinson R22 Beta, G-DELB

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-B2C piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1988

Date and Time (UTC): 12 October 1989 at 1539 hrs

Location: Redhill Aerodrome, Redhill, Surrey

Type of Flight: Training

Persons on Board: Crew - 2 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - 1 (minor) Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Substantial damage to landing skids, fuselage, tail boom and main rotor

Commander's Licence: Airline Transport Pilot's Licence (Helicopters)

Commander's Age: 54 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: 12,394 hours (of which 2,216 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and telephone enquiries

The instructor was demonstrating an engine failure after take-off to his pre-solo stage student. The exercise was started from the eastern boundary of the airfield and, at a height of about 300 feet, the instructor applied full carburettor heat, lowered the collective pitch lever and the helicopter entered autorotation. Following a normal descent, the helicopter was flared at a height of about 50 feet when the instructor sensed that the student had raised the collective lever. The instructor announced that he had control of the helicopter but he had some difficulty in overcoming the control inputs being made by the student with the result that the helicopter yawed to the right after initial ground contact and then rolled onto its left side.

The instructor received a minor injury to his head from the left door assembly but he was able to shut down the engine and switch off the electrics before he was assisted from the wreckage by his student.