

No: 12/91

Ref: EW/G91/09/04

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Rans S6, G-BTNW

No & Type of Engines: 1 Rotax 582 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1991

Date & Time (UTC): 6 September 1991 at 1339 hrs

Location: Belfast International Airport, Northern Ireland

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Substantial to nose landing gear, forward fuselage and propeller

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 31 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 539 hours (of which 7 were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot was a military helicopter pilot who had a total of 63 hours fixed wing experience. Following an uneventful flight from Carlisle, the pilot made an approach to runway 25 at Belfast with a surface wind of 040°/07kt. The pilot states that he misjudged his flare height and bounced on initial touch down. He attempted a go-around but the aircraft achieved a height of only some 20 feet before sinking back onto the runway. This second contact with the runway caused the nose landing gear to collapse allowing the propeller to strike the runway. The aircraft came to rest on the runway and the pilot was able to evacuate it without difficulty. The pilot considers that the cause of the accident was his relative lack of experience on fixed wing aircraft and the use of incorrect technique during recovery from the initial bounce.