

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Robinson R44 Raven, G-SRPH	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-540-F1B5 piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2007 (Serial no 1849)	
Date & Time (UTC):	11 February 2012 at 1415 hrs	
Location:	Crossmaglen, Northern Ireland	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Damage to tail boom, main and tail rotor blades, doors, panels and a Portakabin	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	63 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	113 hours (of which 113 were on type) Last 90 days - None Last 28 days - None	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The pilot was attempting a takeoff from a confined site with various small buildings in the immediate vicinity. The surface wind was assessed as westerly at 8 kt and there was no significant weather. The pilot reported that, as the helicopter lifted off, it yawed to the left. He applied opposite pedal to counter the yaw but over-corrected. He then applied more collective in an attempt to escape from the situation but the helicopter yawed through about 180° and reached a height of about

25 to 30 ft, before descending. Before the helicopter hit the ground, the pilot pulled the cyclic control aft, to slow down. The tail struck the ground and the main rotor blades struck a nearby Portakabin, causing it severe damage. The helicopter came to rest upright on its skids. The pilot, who had not flown in the preceding 90 days, attributed the accident to over-controlling on pedals and collective.