

No: 7/88

Ref: EW/G88/05/04

Category: 2c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Robinson R22, G-BNKB

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

Year of Manufacture: 1984

Date and Time (UTC): 20 May 1988 at 1300 hrs

Location: White Waltham Airfield, Maidenhead, Berks

Type of Flight: Private (business)

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Aircraft destroyed

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence (Helicopters)

Commander's Age: 49 years

Commander's Total Flying Experience: Fixed wing: 188 hours
Rotary wing: 50 hours (of which all were on type)

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot had completed the refuelling of his helicopter at the airfield fuel pumps and was about to air taxi towards the helicopter's hangar. As the pilot applied collective pitch the helicopter started to roll to the right and so the pilot reduced pitch and applied some left cyclic pitch. The aircraft levelled and suddenly rolled sharply to the left. Following ground contact by the main rotor, the aircraft came to rest tilted to the rear with the tail boom bent alongside the left side of the fuselage. The pilot was able to extricate himself unaided and airfield personnel sprayed foam onto the wreckage in order to inhibit the risk of fire from spilled fuel. Subsequent examination of the helicopter revealed no obvious mechanical defect.