Using Fireworks, Toy Balloons & Sky Lanterns near Manchester Airport

Fireworks, Sky Lanterns and Toy Balloons can be dangerous to aviation. They are though we know, used throughout the year to celebrate New Year, Birthdays, Religious Holidays and to mark the end of festivities or concerts. Firework displays or Balloon/Lantern releases can be used to collect money for charity, afford entertainment and provide pleasure to millions each year.

Many fireworks dispense canisters several hundred feet into the air, and when used near an airport there is the possibility that they could be detonated in the path or in close proximity of an aircraft. This could cause danger by their unexpected dazzle and distraction to pilots.

Sky lanterns (sometimes known as Chinese Lanterns) vary in size and performance. When released they can travel a considerable distance from the release point at unpredictable heights on the prevailing winds. Lanterns pose a risk to aviation through engine ingestion in the air and on the ground. Sky lantern debris has the potential to cause damage to aircraft engines, tyres and fuselage, if they land on or near the runway or aircraft manoeuvring areas.

Toy Balloons, (used in balloon releases), particularly if released in large numbers could affect the performance of aircraft engines if ingested and cause aircraft to divert from their flightpath to fly around them. Some Toy Balloons (of foil construction) can also cause disturbance to ground and air based radar/navigation systems.

We have prepared the following information to advise the community how they can enjoy airborne devices responsibly and ensure the safety of flight crew and members of the public in the air and on the ground. If you are organising a display/release or are intending to use fireworks, Sky Lanterns or Toy Balloons close to Manchester Airport, please read this data sheet carefully. If you have any remaining concerns or queries, please contact us using the details on the back page.

We receive many requests to change or suspend Airport operations to allow fireworks displays to take place. Unfortunately, such a suspension of operations is difficult to arrange and not often possible. In the United Kingdom, Fireworks are traditionally used to commemorate Guy Fawkes Day on and around 5th November.

In order to allow neighbours close by to hold fireworks displays for Guy Fawkes, operations will be suspended:

Between 20:15 and 20:30 hours on Saturday 1st November 2014 and Saturday 7th November 2015

These are the only suspensions that will take place, so please plan your displays to fit these time periods.

If you intend to hold a display in either of these periods you will need to let us know the location of your display and the contact details of a responsible person. We will publish the dates and times of future suspensions on our website.

Why should I comply with these rules?
Fireworks can be dangerous and for this reason their use is strictly controlled. Sky Lanterns and mass balloon release clearly pose risk to those on the ground and a significant hazard to aviation. The police take the issue of misuse of fireworks or any other airborne device very seriously.

Failure to comply with the guidelines outlined in this data sheet may result in a charge of ‘Endangering the safety of an aircraft,’ this charge carries a prison sentence of up to five years.

For further information, or if you have any queries please contact:
Community Relations
Manchester Airport, M90 1QX
08000 967 967
community.relations@manairport.co.uk
manchesterairport.co.uk/communitylinks

manchesterairport.co.uk/communitylinks
I live close to the Airport; Can I hold a firework display? Please see the information below and refer to the map above.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domestic Display</th>
<th>Professional Display</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.1 Miles to either side of Manchester Airport or its flightpaths.</strong> Or up to 3 miles distant underneath the flightpaths of Manchester Airport (see area coloured red on map)</td>
<td>Please do not use fireworks unless arranged with Manchester Airport.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In excess of 3 but within 5 miles of Manchester Airport and underneath the aircraft flightpath (see area coloured yellow on map)</td>
<td>No devices to fly higher than 200ft unless arranged with Manchester Airport.</td>
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<tr>
<td>In excess of 5 but within 7 miles of Manchester Airport and underneath the aircraft flightpath (see area coloured lilac on map)</td>
<td>No devices to fly higher than 800ft unless arranged with Manchester Airport.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In excess of 7 but within 10 miles of Manchester Airport and underneath the aircraft flightpath (see area un-coloured on map)</td>
<td>No devices to fly higher than 1,000ft unless arranged with Manchester Airport.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

You can safely use ground-based fireworks that are designed to cause no injuries to people within 5 Metres. No rockets, mortars or airborne devices.

You can safely use ground-based fireworks that are designed to cause no injuries to people within 25 Metres. No rockets, mortars or airborne devices.

You can safely use standard domestic devices.

You can safely use standard domestic devices.

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**I live/work close to the Airport; Is it safe to release (a) Sky Lantern(s)?**

Please see information below and refer to the map on the left.

The Civil Aviation Authority are clear that Sky Lanterns should not be released within 10 Nautical Miles of any airport. There is a 10 Nautical Mile radius drawn on the map (left). It is unsafe to release Lanterns from launch sites within this area.

Beyond 10 Nautical Miles you should think carefully before releasing Lanterns. In the right weather conditions they can climb 1,000s ft and travel many miles. Sky Lanterns can cause a significant hazard to aviation in the air from wherever they are released. On landing Sky Lanterns cause debris that may be a hazardous to wildlife or aircraft engines if ingested (many are recovered from and close to our runways).

**I live/work close to the Airport; Is it safe to release Toy Balloons?**

Please see information below and refer to the map on the left.

There is a 5 Nautical Mile radius drawn on the map (left), if your proposed release site is within this area you will need to contact Manchester Airport (using the information on the back page). You will need to advise:

- The address of the proposed release site?
- The number of balloons proposed to be released?
- The size of the balloons and what they are made of?
- The time and date of the proposed release?

You will then be advised whether it would be safe to release the balloons or not. It may be that you are given a conditional clearance. A conditional clearance would be subject to you contacting Air Traffic Control on the day of the release to ensure that the weather conditions (particularly wind direction) make it safe to release.