

General Manager / Accountable Manager

 Tatenhill Airfield, Burton-on-Trent, East Midlands

 £55,000 – £65,000 (depending on experience)

 Full-time, on-site

About Tatenhill

Tatenhill Airfield is a growing and ambitious general aviation centre in the Midlands, offering flight training, aircraft hire, fuel services, aircraft maintenance, events and a thriving airfield community.

Under new ownership, the business is entering a significant phase of development, with investment in infrastructure, customer experience and commercial growth.

We are building a clear operational structure to support this growth and are now looking for a General Manager to help drive the next stage of the airfield's evolution.

The Role

The General Manager is responsible for the overall performance and development of Tatenhill Airfield, ensuring the business operates sustainably, grows commercially and delivers a high-quality customer experience.

Reporting to the airfield owners, the role focuses on executing the strategic direction of the business, while leading the management team responsible for day-to-day operations.

This is a hands-on leadership role, but not a day-to-day operational position — the airfield is supported by an established operational structure.

The General Manager will also be designated as the Accountable Manager for the airfield, carrying ultimate responsibility for ensuring that operations are conducted safely, compliantly and with appropriate finances and resources in line with applicable aviation regulations.

Key Responsibilities

- Drive overall business performance, including financial results and growth across all revenue streams (Flight School, fuel, retail, hangarage, membership, commercial partnerships, events and ancillary services)
 - Maintain the competence, credibility and regulatory understanding required to act as the Accountable Manager, ensuring eligibility to be approved by the Civil Aviation Authority as a “fit and proper” person, and ensuring the airfield operates in accordance with all applicable regulations and the requirements of the Aerodrome Manual
 - Develop and implement commercial initiatives, identifying opportunities to increase utilisation, revenue and profitability
 - Develop and manage budgets, ensuring effective cost control and financial performance across the business
 - Lead and support the management team, including the Airfield Operations Manager, Quality Assurance Manager and Head of Training, ensuring clear accountability, structure and performance across the organisation
 - Develop and articulate a clear vision for the airfield’s future, shaping its growth and development, and translating this into aligned operational and commercial plans across the business
 - Maintain oversight of airfield operations, ensuring they are delivered safely, efficiently and in line with regulatory requirements, while supporting the Airfield Operations Manager in delivering a reliable and well-coordinated operation
 - Act as the escalation point for significant operational, organisational or customer-related issues
 - Support and deliver airfield development projects, contributing to improvements in infrastructure, facilities and overall customer experience
 - Own the overall customer proposition, ensuring a consistent, professional and high-quality experience across all areas of the airfield
 - Support regulatory compliance and safety oversight in conjunction with the Compliance Manager, ensuring appropriate governance and risk management across the business
 - Manage relationships with hangarage licensees, partners and key stakeholders, representing Tatenhill within the aviation and local community
 - Maintain visibility of aircraft maintenance performance and coordination, ensuring alignment between operations, training and customer requirements
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About You

We are looking for a strong operational and commercial leader with relevant aviation experience who can drive performance in a growing, multi-faceted airfield environment.

You will have experience within aviation, ideally within a general aviation, flying school, aerodrome or operational environment, and be comfortable operating within a regulated setting.

Key qualities:

- Proven leadership experience in a multi-department aviation or operational environment
- Strong understanding of UK aviation regulations and safety management principles, with the credibility to operate at Accountable Manager level
- Demonstrable commercial awareness and ability to drive revenue growth across multiple streams
- Experience managing teams and building clear structure, accountability and performance
- Comfortable operating in a hands-on, dynamic environment while maintaining a strategic overview
- Strong communication and decision-making skills, with the ability to engage effectively with regulators, staff and customers

What We Offer

- Salary of £55,000 – £65,000 depending on experience
- Opportunity to shape and grow a unique aviation business
- Key leadership role within an ambitious and developing organisation
- A dynamic and varied working environment

Apply

Please send your CV to recruitment@tatenhill.com and a short cover note outlining your experience and interest in the role.