

Our priorities for Government



About

Handling

75%

of UK flights

Helping support more than

1.5m

jobs

Contributing around

£5.5bn

to the economy

Aviation Services UK is the trade association representing **ground service providers** supporting the UK's aviation sector.

Our members enable airlines to transport people and cargo to and from destinations across the world, **keeping the UK flying**.

Together, our members handle around **75% of UK flights**, helping support more than **1.5 million jobs** and contributing around **£5.5 billion** to the economy every year.

Problems and Solutions

Our mission is to enable a thriving, safe, secure, and sustainable UK aviation sector.

Guided by this mission, we have identified problems and solutions that the Government should prioritize.

1. Resilience

Problem

Recent outages of critical systems, including failures affecting National Air Traffic Services and e-gates, suggest greater focus is needed on resilience.

Solution

Work with the industry to create an **Aviation Resilience Dashboard**.

Jointly overseen by Government and industry through the Aviation Council, this would enable more proactive action to prevent issues and better responses when issues arise.

The dashboard should identify key high-level risks to operational performance over the **short, medium, and long term**. These risks could include areas such as systems and technology, people and processes, power supplies, and safety.



2. Sustainability

Problem

Lack of charging infrastructure at airports is impeding the roll-out of electrified and hydrogen-powered ground services equipment.



Solution

Implement the proposed **2040 Zero Emission Airport target**.

Require airports to develop **decarbonisation roadmaps** in collaboration with customers, including ground service providers.

Guarantee that fees for charging infrastructure and energy supplied by airports are set on a **fair and transparent** basis so that investment in electrified and hydrogen-powered ground services equipment can be maximised.

3. Air cargo

Problem

There has been a sudden and dramatic loss of slots for cargo-only flights at Heathrow and other airports in the Southeast.

Suitable capacity at airports outside the Southeast is insufficient and means more freight travelling greater distances by road.

Supply chains have been disrupted, exposing the UK's strategic vulnerability and competitive weakness.

Solution

Take urgent action to create a **protected pool of slots for cargo-only flights** in the national strategic interest, giving businesses the certainty they need.

Accelerate **reform of how slots are allocated**, with strengthened regulatory oversight by the Civil Aviation Authority.

Over the longer-term, deliver **extra capacity** through airspace modernization and supporting investment in new airport infrastructure.

4. Accessibility

Problem

Further action is needed to continue to improve the experience of people travelling with reduced mobility or other disabilities.

Solution

Work with the industry to create a new **Flier Friendly industry standard**, building on the Civil Aviation Authority's proposed performance framework for airline accessibility.

The *Flier Friendly* industry standard would be awarded to airlines adopting best practice and, as a high-profile and consumer-facing brand, help encourage more airlines to do so.

Best practice should include airlines sharing information on handling mobility devices using the **standardised format** recommended by Aviation Services UK.



5. People

Problem

The availability of skilled workers is a challenge across all sectors, including aviation.

It is essential to encourage more people to pursue long-term careers in aviation.

Solution

Continue to support initiatives such as **Generation Aviation** to support recruitment into the industry and make the processes that enable people to work in airports **more efficient**.

Work with the industry to identify and examine ways to **boost retention**.

Continue to raise consistent safety standards and performance by fostering **stronger collaboration** between airports, airlines and ground service providers.

Support investment in enhanced safety infrastructure, including CCTV monitoring, and improved staff accommodation at airports.





Aviation Services UK

KEEPING THE UK FLYING

www.aviationservicesuk.org