

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Day 1 | 1000 | Arrival & registration

1100-1105 | Introductory remarks

Rupinder Pamme – AirportsUK

1105-1145 | Keynote opening address at the AirportsUK Security Conference

Presentation:

The Rt Hon. the Baroness Neville-Jones DCMG

Fireside Chat:

Moderators: Caroline Vear – Bristol Airport & Chair, AirportsUK Security Working Group & Joanna McMahon – Birmingham Airport & Vice Chair, AirportsUK Security Working Group

Q&A

Summary: The Rt Hon. the Baroness Neville-Jones DCMG will open the AirportsUK Security Conference with a keynote opening address informed by one of the most distinguished careers in UK national security. Former Chair of the Joint Intelligence Committee; Minister of State for Security and Counter-Terrorism, and Prime Minister David Cameron's Special Representative to Business on Cyber Security she will reflect on the contemporary geopolitical environment, the evolving threat landscape, and the implications of emerging technologies, including cyber and drones. Her address will be followed by a fireside chat exploring these themes further, alongside her pioneering contribution to the advancement of women in UK security and defence.

1145-1215 | Keynote address: view from the Government

Chris Selim, Deputy Director Aviation Security Policy & Strategy – Department for Transport

1215-1245 | Airline security – Additional Security Measures

Presentation:

Rachael Smith, General Manager, Aviation Security – Jet2

Panel Session:

Peter Miller, Aviation Security Manager, Regulations & Compliance – easyJet

Rachael Smith, General Manager, Aviation Security – Jet2

Moderator: Caroline Vear – Bristol Airport & Chair, AirportsUK Security Working Group

Q&A

1245-1255 | Commercial presentation: Dallmeier

1255-1400 | Networking lunch

1400-1430 | Sun, stars & silcon: Charting a course through geopolitical turbulence

Dr Melanie Garson, Associate Professor (Teaching) in International Security & Conflict Resolution, Department of Political Science—University College London

Moderator: Rupinder Pamme—AirportsUK

Q&A

Summary: *For centuries, navigators relied on the sun and stars to guide them through uncertainty. Today, aviation depends on digital systems that promise precision but are increasingly shaped by geopolitical competition and technological rivalry. This session explores how new actors, methods, and forms of leverage are reshaping the technology stack that underpins aviation. We'll examine the risks of disruption across interconnected systems, consider how leaders can anticipate emerging shocks, and discuss strategies for building resilience when traditional sources of certainty no longer apply.*

1430-1505 | Developing governance to manage security in airport infrastructure design projects

Presentation

Sarah-Jane Prew, Associate Aviation Security – Arup

Panel session:

Nikki Bains, Head of Planning, Transport & Strategy – Birmingham Airport & Chair of AirportsUK Planners Forum

Sarah-Jane Prew, Associate Aviation Security – Arup

Moderator: Joanna McMahon – Birmingham Airport & Vice Chair, AirportsUK Security Working Group

Q&A

Summary: *A challenge for airport security teams is the visibility of infrastructure design programmes, limiting their ability to identify and influence security risks early. This presentation draws on experience across several airports and outlines a governance approach to help teams assess design risk, engage projects at the right time, and embed security from concept to operation. There will then follow a panel session to explore this further.*

1505-1535 | National Counter Terrorism Security Office (NaCTSO) -Toolkit update for airports

Will Hunt, Police Sergeant & Aviation Lead National Aviation & Maritime Security Unit – NaCTSO

Moderator: Rupinder Pamme—AirportsUK

Q&A

1535-1600 | Networking Break

1600-1610 | Commercial presentation: Airbus Protect

1610–1700 | Deep dive session | Strengthening cyber resilience: Regulatory and industry perspectives on the Cyber Security and Resilience Bill and airport operations

Presentations:

Jonathan Hogben, Cyber Security Policy Lead – Civil Aviation Authority

Mark Ward, Chief Information Security Officer – Heathrow Airport

Panel session

Stefan Hechler, Line Manager Threat Management Centre – Airbus Protect

Simon Sheeran, Head of Cyber Security Oversight – Civil Aviation Authority

Mark Ward, Chief Information Security Officer – Heathrow Airport

Moderator: Caroline Vear – Bristol Airport & Chair, AirportsUK Security Working Group & Rupinder Pamme - AirportsUK Q&A

Summary: This session will have a presentation from the regulator and Heathrow Airport to explore the impact of the Cyber Security and Resilience Bill on airport operations, including its shift toward board-level oversight, stricter reporting, and stronger enforcement. There will then follow a panel session focusing on a broader discussion of airport cyber resilience, and how to enhance security while maintaining efficient operations.

1700–1710 | Break as we switch panel

1710-1745 | Aviation security Risk-Based Oversight (RBO): Implications for airports

Presentation

Kirsty Richardson, Head of Compliance Aviation Security – Civil Aviation Authority

Panel session:

Liz Neate, Security Manager – Farnborough Airport

Kirsty Richardson, Head of Compliance Aviation Security – Civil Aviation Authority

Kenny Welsh, Head of Airport Security – Glasgow Airport

Moderator: Joanna McMahon – Birmingham Airport & Vice Chair, AirportsUK Security Working Group Q&A

Summary: The CAA will provide an overview of the Aviation Security Risk-Based Oversight methodology, outlining the Proof of Concept, proposed timelines, and how the approach may support more targeted and proportionate compliance monitoring for airports. The concept relies on comparable, quantitative data sets to provide assurance along with collaboration between regulator and industry. This will be discussed in a panel session which follows from those airports who are part of the RBO proof of concept.

1745-1755 | Closing remarks

Caroline Vear – Bristol Airport & Chair, AirportsUK Security Working Group

1915-2000 | Pre-dinner drinks

2000 | Dinner

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Day 2

0800-0900 | Breakfast

0900-0905 | Welcome & introduction

Rupinder Pamme – AirportsUK

0905-0915 | Commercial Presentation: Leidos

0915-0945 | Keynote address: a view from industry

Chris Woodroofe, Managing Director – Manchester Airport

Moderator: Caroline Vear – Bristol Airport & Chair, AirportsUK Security Working Group

Q&A

Summary: Chris will welcome everyone to Manchester Airport and outline his thoughts as MD on security. There will be opportunities to take questions from the audience.

0945-1015 | Update: Background check review

Guy Slaney, Head of Personnel Security Regulation, Aviation Security Directorate – Civil Aviation Authority

Moderators: Moderator: Joanna McMahon – Birmingham Airport & Vice Chair, AirportsUK Security Working Group

Q&A

Summary: The CAA will provide an update to the Background Check Review via the Recruitment Practices Working Group (RPWG). This group is working through the draft Activity History Review process circulated at the end of 2025 and comprises representatives from airports, air carriers' cargo regulated agents and regulated in-flight suppliers.

1015-1035 | Networking break

1035-1110 | Accessibility (Title TBC)

Speakers TBC

Moderator: Christopher Snelling – AirportsUK

Q&A

Summary: TBC

1110-1120 | Commercial presentation: ICTS UK & Ireland

1120-1150 | Airport spotlight session

Panel session:

Anthony Parker, Security Technology Manager – Gatwick Airport

Andrew Proudlove, Head of Compliance & Assurance, Manchester Airport

Moderators: Caroline Vear – Bristol Airport & Chair, AirportsUK Security Working Group & Joanna McMahon – Birmingham Airport & Vice Chair, AirportsUK Security Working Group

Q&A

Summary: The final and closing session of the conference will spotlight work being carried out by Gatwick Airport who will provide an update on their Automated Prohibited Item Detection Systems (APIDS) trial and Manchester Airport on Modern Slavery.

1150-1200 | Summary of morning session & close

Caroline Vear – Bristol Airport & Chair, AirportsUK Security Working Group

1200-1300 | Buffet lunch

1300-1430 | Airport closed session

**Speakers, topics & timings may be subject to change*