

the world. These ASAs are treaties establishing a framework under which airlines are granted rights to fly between the UK and other countries. They have been developed through working with partner states over many years. As part of the Government's vision for future growth, **we are refreshing the prioritisation of our work in this area, continuing to build and optimise the UK's air services relationships worldwide.** This work will play an important role in supporting our ambitions to boost global connectivity and deliver the market access, flexibility, opportunity, and agility required in a very rapidly-changing international aviation sector.

Airport expansion has a key role to play in boosting our global connectivity. We remain supportive of sustainable airport growth, and our existing planning frameworks provide a robust and balanced framework for airports to grow within our strict environmental criteria. They continue to have full effect, as a material consideration in decision-taking on applications for planning permission. The Government is

clear that the expansion of any airport must meet its climate change obligations to be able to proceed.

Incentivising trade and investment

As the sector recovers, it is also important to recognise the vast opportunities available to the UK through trade and investment. Aviation continues to play a key role in supporting the Government's economic growth agenda. As we build back better, we will make the most of UK aviation strengths, leadership and competitive advantage to support the Government's ambition to incentivise UK trade and investment opportunities as set out in the Government's 'Race for a Trillion' refreshed export strategy. This includes aviation supporting the Government's ambition to achieve £1 trillion in exports annually by the mid-2030s. Aviation can help boost UK trade opportunities in a number of ways:

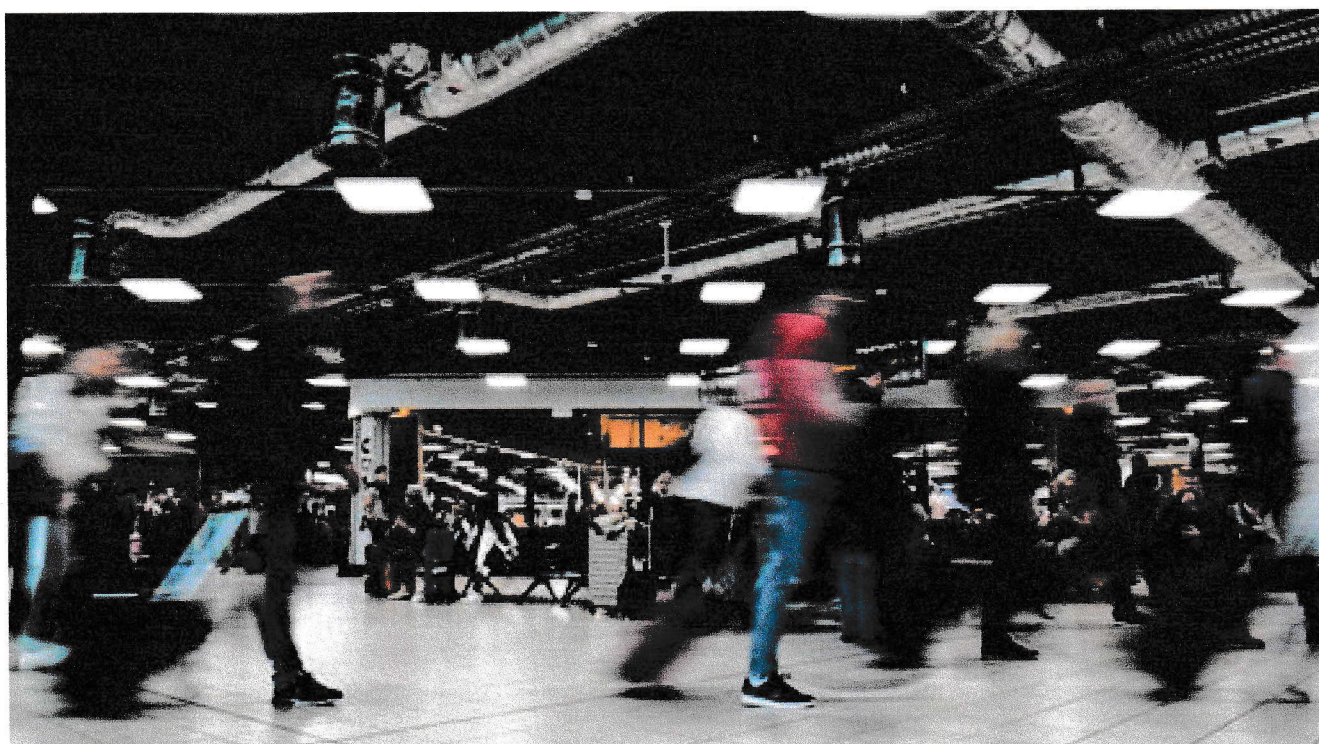


Figure 4: Passengers travelling through a terminal, London Luton Airport.

Case Study: Spaceport Cornwall

Spaceport Cornwall is a project between Cornwall Council, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Enterprise Partnership, Goonhilly Earth Station and Virgin Orbit. It will offer horizontal satellite launch services from Cornwall Airport Newquay. The site offers:

- A 2,744m long runway
- Direct access over the sea
- Adjoining military site RAF St Mawgan
- Ground handling equipment
- A new Aviation Centre including space systems integration, mission operations facilities, laboratories/R&D workspace
- Rocket test facility

Supported through funding by local and central Government, Spaceport Cornwall is launching the region's new space ecosystem. The renowned Goonhilly Earth Station, the world's most capable satellite ground station, is also offering its services alongside the spaceport. Collaboratively, Cornwall offers broader opportunities than just launch, including:

1. Mission control and tracking services
2. Countless downstream application companies and
3. Aerospace Cornwall, which offers funding for research and development

All this activity has led the space sector in Cornwall to successfully grow by 164% since 2010. Spaceport Cornwall is determined to lead on more sustainable launch practices. The Spaceport Cornwall team is working closely with schools, colleges, and higher education institutions across the region to build the skills base to meet the needs of the space industry. An inspirational outreach programme is being rolled out across Cornwall, aiming to engage with every primary and secondary school, with live sessions with our partners, Virgin Orbit in California.

Our existing policy on planning for airport development²² supports our objective to realise benefits for the UK and demonstrates our commitment to growth, within strict environmental limits. It continues to have full effect, as a material consideration in decision-taking on applications for planning permission. The Government is clear that any

expansion of any airport must meet its climate change obligations to be able to proceed.

The Government will support a limited number of air routes into London if they are at risk of being lost and there are no viable transport alternatives. We are exploring further opportunities to utilise PSOs, alongside other policy measures, towards meeting our ongoing

²² Beyond the horizon – The future of UK aviation: Making best use of existing runways (2018) and Airports National Policy Statement: new runway capacity and infrastructure at airports in the South East of England (2018) are the most up-to-date policy on planning for airport development.