

GA4Biz meeting with DfT
28th September
Virtual event -Teams

Attendees

Bethan Grinham
David Harding
Mark Harrison
Dan Hills
Martin Robinson
Tim Fauchon
Graham Brown
Marc Bailey

Please find a copy of the top-level notes and actions from last week's GA4Biz meeting.

- Good feedback on the recent Drone Expo especially Darryl Abelscroft's presentation. The group is keen to discuss and interact more holistically with future of aviation issues given the read across and interlinked issues for GA/GA4biz.
ACTION – DfT colleagues to ask Darryl / his team along to this group to present in the future.
- Intro: good session with CAA and industry yesterday. In particular, GA4Biz members were not aware of the number and nature of unilateral agreements with the EU (and other BASAs, e.g. China/Singapore) on the Safety side. Would like to understand more about this with DfT and CAA to help going forwards and feed in views on priority markets/issues. They also noted engagement on rule-making and legislative issues e.g. criminal vs civil sanctions powers where there is a strong case to see progress. DH mentioned the key group to engage with on this was the industry safety forum which TF attends.
- This group doesn't have a formal session with the minister – they would like one before the end of the year to raise issues, and they are happy to write to request this.
ACTION – raised not having a GA rep on the Aviation Council. DH asked MR to discuss further with Mike Pearson.
- Infrastructure for tomorrow – ensuring we have GA airfields in the future. Challenge on third runway in Heathrow and not losing GA capacity at Luton etc. What is the strategic value of GA airfields? Transport links for GA airfields especially Biggin Hill. Importance of integrated transport plan as its about end-to-end connectivity.
- SBAS/Horizon – [Dan Mills brought in] MB noted why it is important for industry (economic/commercial and safety reasons) and questioned the value for different sectors (incl. maritime/military and banking). Also noted if EGNOS can be used by drones as the changes only impact the approach to landing. The group discussed the current position on the business case for a UK SBAS led by DSIT, and that we should look for opportunities to ensure GA4Biz are engaged in future consultation/evidence-gathering. There were questions around the time to market for a new system, and risks around complying with ICAO requirements in long-term.
- Next GEN activities – trying to get momentum and driving in qualifications at schools and colleges. GA4Biz keen to promote the ASRP as a platform for colleges and industry to share/match opportunities but want to see a centres of excellence model develop. DH noted

some positive work on apprenticeships overall including DfT endorsing development of a drone operator apprenticeship but which will need more work and industry support to progress.

- We didn't manage to cover the single design entity in any detail but noted there will be implications for GA, and that the teams at DfT and CAA will engage with the GA sector as the work develops.

We look forward to seeing you again on 6 December 2024.