



Office of the Chair

Rt Hon Heidi Alexander MP
Secretary of State for Transport
Department for Transport
Great Minister House
33 Horseferry Road
London SW1P 4DR

Via Email: transportsecretary@dft.gov.uk

22nd April 2026

Dear Secretary of State

CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY (CAA) PRIORITIES FOR 2026/27

Thank you for your letter of 20 April 2026 setting out your priorities for the CAA for 2026/27.

I welcome the clarity of your expectations and can confirm that the CAA remains fully committed to supporting the Government's objectives for the sector, including contributing to the wider mission of driving UK economic growth and investment, building on our work over the last year, as well as supporting work related to the current conflict in the Middle East.

The priorities you have outlined are fully integrated into the CAA's strategy, including our annual strategic objectives, business plan and Board priorities. As you will be aware from our regular reporting, we are already taking forward significant programmes of work in line with all six priority areas. I can assure you we will continue to drive forward delivery, building on the solid progress we have already made against key programmes, including Heathrow expansion, Future of Flight, airspace modernisation and legislative reform. We will do this whilst maintaining absolute focus on our core statutory responsibilities for aviation safety, security and consumer protection.

I also welcome the introduction of regulator-specific Growth Goals. Providing clear, measurable expectations is helpful and will enable us to demonstrate more transparently the value that we add and ensure that we are prioritising our activities appropriately. I am confident we are well positioned to deliver the outcomes outlined in the letter.

Civil Aviation Authority

Head Office: Aviation House, Beehive Ringroad, Crawley, West Sussex, RH6 0YR
London Office: 5th Floor, Westferry House, 11 Westferry Circus, London, E14 4HD
www.caa.co.uk

I look forward to providing regular updates through my quarterly meetings with the Aviation Minister and remain committed to maintaining a constructive and collaborative relationship with the Department throughout the year ahead.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Hillier', with a horizontal line underneath.

Sir Stephen Hillier, GCB CBE DFC
CHAIR