

SHORT (& MEDIUM) TERM MEASURES - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

MEASURE SET	Regulatory	
MEASURE TITLE	Immigration and security	
MEASURE SUMMARY	This measure includes several proposals to accelerate ground clearance of some users through immigration and security.	
MEASURE INVOLVES	<div> <input type="checkbox"/> Behavioural Change <input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure Change </div> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operational Change <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regulatory Change </div> <div> <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Change <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy Change </div>	
WHAT DOES THIS ADDRESS? <p>The performance of UK border control is perceived to be poor. The queue length targets at immigration are substantially more relaxed (longer) than those imposed on security queues, for example. In addition, some countries (Ireland) have an agreement with the US to allow immigration pre-screening for US entry at the departure airport. This requires treaty level agreement with the US and would require significant facilities, terminal space and quarantine areas for post-screening passengers.</p>		
WHAT WOULD BE DONE? <p>In order to accelerate ground clearance, proposals include US immigration pre-clearance, visa restrictions to be reduced, more permanent border control staff and integrate Visas with Schengen visas.</p>		
WHAT IS THE IMPACT? <p>The impacts would be expected to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time savings for travellers to the US. • Increased attractiveness of the UK as an aviation hub and tourist destination. 		

MEASURE SET:	Regulatory	Short Term	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MEASURE TITLE:	Immigration and security	Medium Term	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

PROPOSAL SUMMARY

Proposed by:	Biggin Hill(044), Bristol Airport(010), IOD(039), LCCI(042), LSCC(048), Rothwell(060)		
Proposal: REG-IMM-1 REG-IMM-2	<p>This measure covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing processes to accelerate ground clearance of some users through immigration and security Establishing US pre-screening at some UK airports <p>The intention is that faster immigration and security clearance will enhance the UK's role as an aviation hub. The former proposal can likely be enacted in the short-term, whilst the latter is more likely a medium-term opportunity.</p>		
Approach	<p>The approach is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> US immigration pre-clearance would be established at UK international airports where practicable (with a priority towards airports other than LHR) (Bristol Airport, LCCI, Rothwell) Visa restrictions on UK visits from key countries (especially China) should be reduced, possibly including joint Visas with the Schengen area (LCCI, LSCC). Dedicated border control and security for business aviation Employ more permanent border control staff, accelerate visa processing (to less than 1 week) and integrate Visas with Schengen visas (IOD) 	<p>Stated Capital Cost: Not stated</p> <hr/> <p>Capacity (mppa): None</p> <hr/> <p>Capacity (atm): None</p>	
Benefits	<p>The main benefits available are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time savings and comfort for travellers to the US. Increased attractiveness of the UK as a hub for flights to the US Increased tourism from countries with more relaxed visa policy Time savings for business aviation, and increased product attractiveness for UK based business aviation. 		
Issues & Risks	<p>The main issues and risks are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not all airports may be willing to pay for US pre-clearance facilities. Some airlines may not support pre-clearance. Immigration policy around visas based on multiple criteria beyond demand for travel. EU may refuse joint visas with Schengen area. 		
Mitigations	Not stated.		
Dependencies	<p>The key dependencies are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> US agreement to allow pre-clearance at UK airports. UK airport interest in pre-clearance. Airline interest in using pre-clearance. Immigration policy amendments to change Visa requirements Agreement on payment for dedicated security and border control for business aviation. 		

MEASURE SET:	Regulatory	Short Term	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MEASURE TITLE:	Immigration and security	Medium Term	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Strategic Fit	No impact on long term options. Has peripheral impact on UK role as aviation hub.
Economy	Travel time savings for trips to the United States of up to 1 hour per passenger. Higher levels of tourism from China (and other countries if included) if visa process simplified. Travel time savings for business aviation users.
Surface Transport	Easier visa requirements will increase tourism and demand for surface transport.
Environment	Not stated.
People	Not stated.
Cost	Not stated.
Operational Viability	Requires adequate terminal space to allow for US pre-clearance. This is particularly a challenge at larger airports. Dedicated border control and security for business aviation may have to operate at limited hours for airports with limited traffic.
Delivery	Requires United States Immigration Service and US Department of Homeland Security acceptance. Requires airport agreement. Visa changes would be part of immigration policy.