

East Midland Airport Consultative Committee (EMACC)

General Meeting

Friday 17th April 2026 at 10:00 – 12:30.

Breakfast and networking opportunity from 9.15

Venue: EMA Training Facility, Building 110 (next door to Pathfinder House)

Please use the bus or park in Short Stay 1. Head towards Arrivals/ Bus Interchange and walk east towards Pathfinder House to reach the new EMA Training Facility.

<i>Time</i>		Lead	Paper
5	1. Welcome and apologies	Chair	
5	2. Declaration of Interests	Chair	
5	3. Minutes of the last meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5th December 2025 minutes• Matters arising	Chair	Draft Minutes
10	4. An update by the Chair	Chair	
30	5. Managing Director's Report	Steve Griffiths	Paper
10	6. How EMA mitigates against drones using zones	Lauren Turner	Verbal Update
20	7. Airport Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Environmentb) Planningc) Community Engagement	a) James Ayre/ Martin Churley/ Sue Thomas / Adam Freeman b) Jon Bottomley c) Colleen Hempson	Papers
25	8. EMA Commercial Strategy	Adam Andrews	Presentation
25	9. ED&I at MAG	Alicia McDonnell	Presentation
5	10. AOB <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Future planned or proposed items	All	
5	12. Date of the next meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2nd of July 2026	Chair	

EAST MIDLANDS AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (EMACC)
GENERAL MEETING – 17 April 2026

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. Business Update

- 1.1 The financial year finished with passenger numbers broadly in line with FY25, reflecting additional capacity introduced by TUI and Jet2. Looking ahead, the airport will welcome Loganair, which will commence a daily Jersey service from May, replacing the former Blue Islands operation. A targeted media campaign will be launched in the coming weeks to support the route's introduction and build awareness of the Loganair brand in the region.

Later in the year, the airport will roll out a wider airport branded advertising campaign across the surrounding catchment. This will focus on promoting East Midlands Airport's ease of access and convenience relative to neighbouring airports, utilising a mix of billboards, radio advertising, and targeted digital activity across platforms including Spotify and Sky.

The airport continues to monitor, alongside airline and logistics partners, the impact of ongoing events in the Middle East. To date, there has been minimal operational impact at EMA, with cargo operators adapting routings and capacity as required.

The Aviation Development team recently attended the first European route development conference of the year, where constructive discussions were held with several airlines regarding potential future services from East Midlands Airport.

- 1.2 Terminal improvement works have continued throughout the winter period. Three airside commercial units have been refurbished, including a refreshed Pork & Pickle offering with an enhanced menu aimed at the grab-and-go market. Terracotta has opened a new Italian-themed restaurant tailored to families, and WHSmith will shortly open a significantly enlarged unit, providing an expanded retail offer including health and beauty ranges. Further enhancements have also been delivered within the Escape Lounge, alongside the introduction of a new seating area outside Starbucks.

- 1.3 Cargo operations have continued the strong growth seen throughout the previous year. SF Express has launched new regular services following a successful trial flight in March. DHL has increased its use of larger aircraft, introducing additional B777s into its UK fleet, and has added further regular services, including to Dublin and Shanghai.

Looking ahead, Yun Express has received CAA handling approval to commence operations as the airport's latest ground handler, operating from the former UPS building following significant investment in the facility. Operations are expected to commence at the end of April, initially handling Yun Express flights, with plans to expand services to additional carriers over time.

In 2025, East Midlands Airport was the fastest-growing UK airport for freight, securing 36% of total national cargo growth. This performance was supported by

increased activity and the introduction of several new cargo operators, including Central Airlines, Atlas Air, Ethiopian Cargo, Etihad Cargo and SF Express, reinforcing EMA's position as the UK's premier freight hub.

- 1.4 Growing awareness of EMA's central UK location and strong cargo proposition has also led to increased engagement with potential new operators and investors in relation to the Cargo Max development, reflecting continued confidence in the airport's ability to support efficient, flexible operations and enable seamless UK trade.
- 1.5 The Department for Transport recently announced that Lauren Turner, who was appointed as the airport's Operations Director in October 2025, will become an aviation ambassador, helping to showcase opportunities for diverse and disadvantaged communities by shining a light on the wide range of aviation jobs. As an Aviation Ambassador, she will promote jobs, skills and training in the sector by going into schools, hosting workshops, and using social media to reach primary, secondary and college students across England. Lauren will champion apprenticeships, mentoring and skills development for young people in the area, and is keen to create a more inclusive and supported pathway for future aviation professionals.

2. Airport Traffic Statistics

A high-level summary of operations is provided in Figures 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3:

Figure 2.1 – EMA Passenger numbers

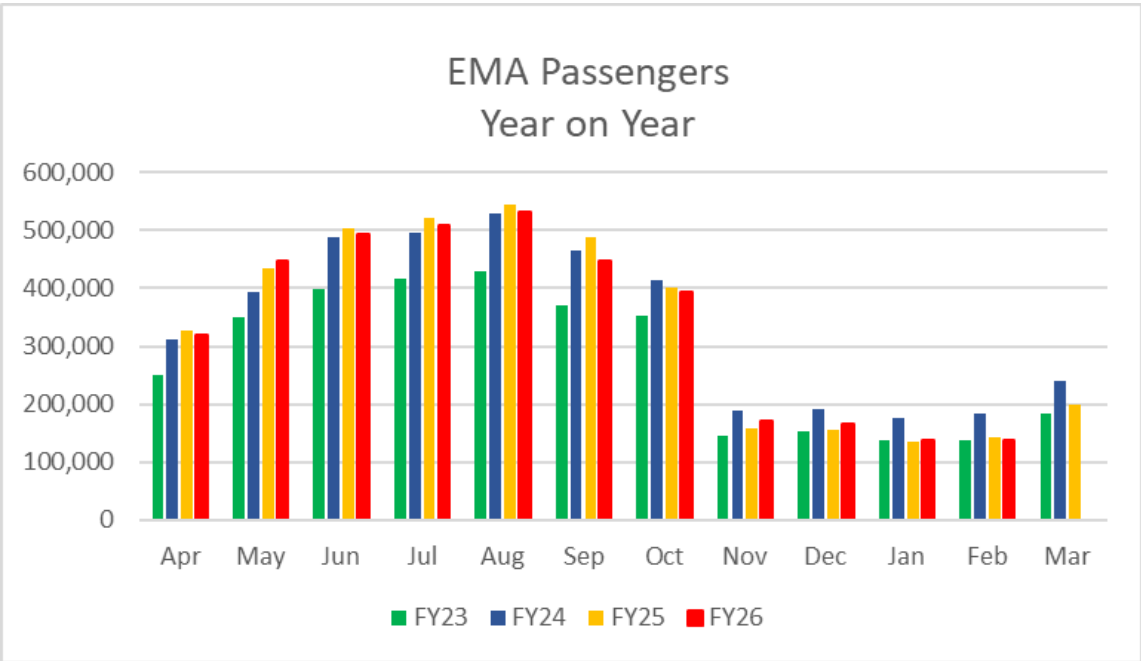


Figure 2.2 – EMA Cargo (tonnes)

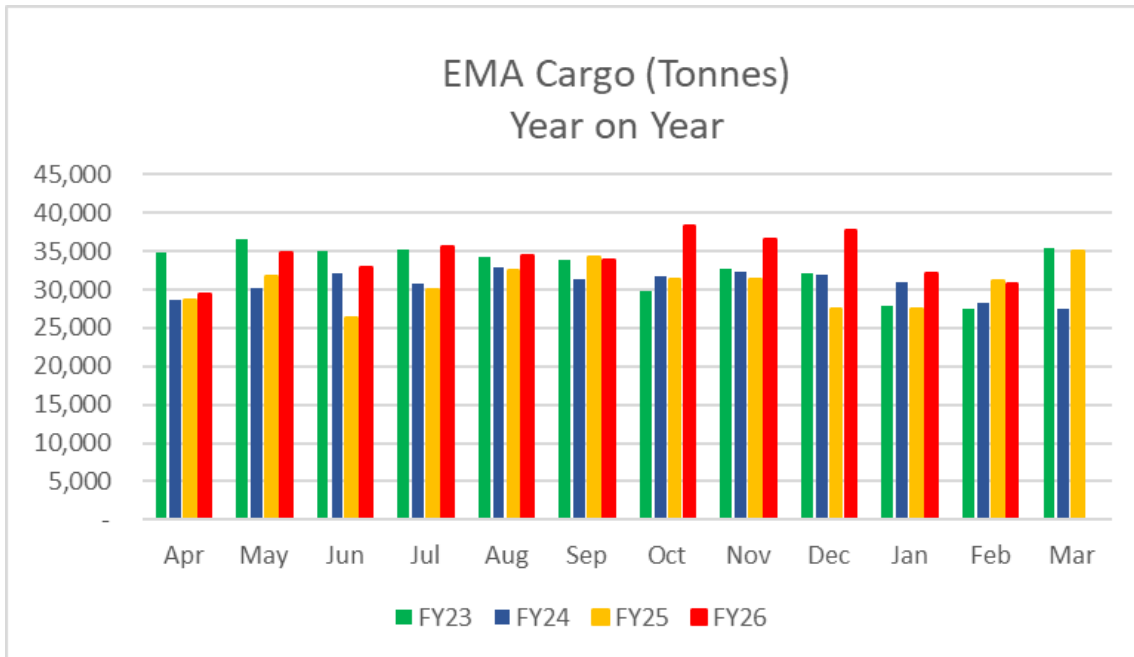
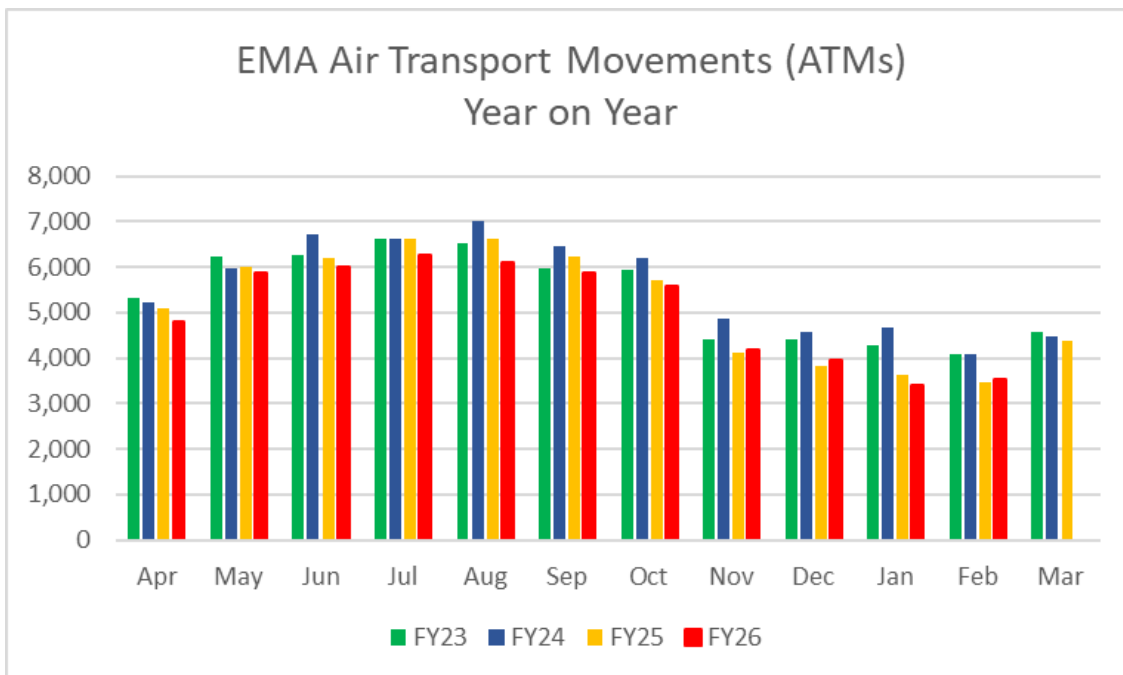


Figure 2.3 - EMA Air Transport Movements



3. Customer Service Update

3.1 Our terminal Net Promotor Score (NPS) for the period November to February is 63 against the MAG group target of 35. This score remains higher than the same period the previous year (60.1), despite numerous improvements works causing some disruption. This strong result confirms that our continued focus driving forward customer improvements is resulting in exceptional experiences and effortless travel for all customers travelling through EMA.

3.2 During our winter season, areas that have benefitted from the improvement works include an aesthetics refresh of our immigration waiting area, a major refurbishment of our Check-in Hall toilet facility, a brand-new Quiet Room and

Sensory Pod, a new "Little Flyers" kids zone, the addition of self-serve kiosks to our Meet & Greet car park product, and light-touch refreshes in many parts of our departure lounge, baggage reclaim hall, and gate areas. These will complement the upgrades of our commercial unit offerings.





- 3.3 Alongside the 'post travel' NPS satisfaction scores, we also continue to conduct and monitor our 'in the moment' ASQ feedback surveys, which allow us to compare detailed insights against other similarly sized airports across Europe and internationally. Like the NPS, our ASQ demonstrates strong performance in overall satisfaction across our summer season, remaining consistently above 4.05 (out of 5). This feedback is useful for highlighting specific areas for improvement, which allows us to respond faster to customer sentiment.
- 3.4 Looking ahead, we continue to look work on future opportunities to improve the customer journey through our dedicated Customer Journey Working Group. Our attention is on our wayfinding and signage standards, comfort and layout of gates, and the look and feel of our Assisted Travel areas.
- 3.5 Our Assisted Travel CAA rating remains at 'Very Good' following the CAA's most recent airport accessibility report. We were also recognised as winners at the inaugural Travel for Everybody Awards in October, where judges noted EMA "for their strong advisory group that actively influences improvements and are known for listening and implementing feedback quickly". We are pleased to be represented on the DfT Aviation Accessibility Implementation Group which was introduced this year after EMA contributed to making numerous recommendations within chairperson Baroness Tanni Grey Thomson's Aviation Accessibility report. Our ever-popular service is forecast to assist a record-breaking 120,000 customers in in the upcoming 2026-27 financial year.
- 3.6 Our Customer Cadet scheme continues to provide us with a flexible team of customer helpers, recruited in partnership with Loughborough and Nottingham Colleges, available exclusively to students studying Aviation or Travel & Tourism. The cadets play an important supportive role to our Customer Services Ambassadors, helping us deliver a consistently high level of service to customers during peak times of the year which coincide with the students' academic breaks. The scheme also gives the students valuable paid experience of working in an aviation environment, which benefits their studies, and has secured a talent

pipeline for our ongoing recruitment needs at EMA. Twelve cadets are approaching the end of their year-long programme, and we expect to offer approximately ten of these permanent roles with us this summer, with a new programme of twelve cadets to be recruited again ready for July.

4. Security Update

4.1 This financial year so far (April 2025 to March 2026) the measure of customers passing through security in 15 minutes or less sits at 99.69%.

4.2 We are now approaching the conclusion of the Future Securities Technologies programme, and after operating with the new technology for the past six months, we have already seen significant benefits. The upgrade has delivered much-needed enhancements to the operation, supported by strong positive feedback from both passengers and colleagues alike. Our performance has continued to improve as colleagues have become increasingly familiar with the new equipment and the updated layout of the operation. We remain committed to continuously reviewing and identifying further opportunities to enhance both the security hall layout and our ways of working. This ensures that our passengers continue to enjoy an effortless journey and a pleasant experience when transiting through security.

4.3 Following the successful delivery of the passenger-facing areas, the final elements of the programme are also nearing completion. Beyond the passenger-facing upgrades the business has now introduced two brand-new gatehouse facilities, providing dedicated access to the airside aprons and stands. These gatehouses have been purpose-designed with colleague comfort, ease of access, and the integration of new technologies at their core. They are also future-proofed to support the expanding cargo operation and the evolving access requirements of our service partners. Each facility reflects the same level of enhancement delivered in the passenger areas ensuring our partners benefit from improved productivity, efficiency, and service standards. The new gatehouses represent a significant and valuable addition to our security infrastructure delivering a consistent, modern, and high-quality experience for all who use them.



- 4.4 Over the past year we have seen a dramatic reduction in the number of colleagues leaving the Security Operations department. This is a fantastic testament to the hard work we have invested in engagement and colleague support. By retaining talent and experience within the operation we strengthen our performance and ensure greater consistency for both colleagues and passengers. This positive trend is driven in part by our ongoing commitment to colleague development and career progression. It is also supported by our continued investment in feedback mechanisms such as listening groups, ideas platforms, and regular recognition through a variety of channels. Retaining our colleagues not only enhances productivity and customer satisfaction but also provides a strong foundation for continued business development.
- 4.5 There is still no change to the current liquid rule at EMA, meaning passengers continue to only carry liquids of up to 100ml. While other airports using different equipment have already lifted the 100ml restriction, we await approval from the Department for Transport (DfT), working closely in partnership with Leidos on the final algorithm validation. Once approved, we will move forward in a coordinated approach with Manchester and Stansted Airports.
5. Policy and Public Affairs Update
- 5.1 January saw us kickstart the year with a delegation visiting EMA from the Office for Investment's senior leadership team. The visit was another great opportunity to showcase our strategic role facilitating global trade to a government department, with lots of discussion around investment opportunities, our plans for cargo growth and wider role in the regional economy.
- 5.2 Ahead of the end date for the East Midlands Mayors Regional Transport consultation, we attended a stakeholder workshop event in Nottingham bringing together key regional businesses and organisations to discuss the mayor's 15-year transport strategy. As a significant site for both employees and passengers from across the region, surface access to the EMA site presents many opportunities as well as challenges, and we will continue to collaborate with EMCCA on these.
- 5.3 We were approached by University of Nottingham to host a group of 40 students from their Business School who are currently studying a module on International Logistics and Transportation. The visit provided a valuable opportunity to bring their academic learning to life, giving students first-hand insight into how a major logistics operation functions in a real-world environment. A key focus of the session was highlighting the wide range of employment opportunities available—not only within the airport itself, but across the wider logistics industry—including roles in operations, planning, engineering and data analysis.
- 5.4 In March, we welcomed the South Derbyshire District Council leadership team for an evening tour of our cargo operations. Each year, the Council invites us to present updates at one of their Scrutiny Committees, so it was a valuable opportunity to return the engagement by hosting key stakeholders and offering them a first-hand look at our overnight cargo activity and wider operation.

6. Freeport Update

6.1 MAG, and our development partner Prologis, are jointly promoting land south of the A453 for development of logistics and warehousing (the 'Joint Application'). Updated information was submitted by Prologis late last year, and this is to be shortly supplemented by an updated traffic and transport assessment. At present, it is anticipated that this application will be considered by North West Leicestershire District Council in May/ June 2026.

6.2 Members will recall that alongside the MAG / Prologis Joint Application, SEGRO applied for a Development Consent Order for the development of the whole Freeport site, south of the Airport. This planning process has now progressed to the Examination phase that started with a Pre-Examination meeting on 9 March 2026, and the Examination itself commencing on 10 March 2026. The SEGRO application is being considered by a panel of three Inspectors who will report to Secretary of State for Transport to determine the application. The Examination will run until 11 September 2026 in which there are multiple written and oral deadlines for the presentations of evidence. MAG and Prologis are registered as Interested Parties at the Examination, along with local authorities, highway authorities and other parties, and will be submitting material throughout the process. The Examination website is: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/BC0410001>

7. Future Airspace Update

7.1 Wider Airspace Modernisation update

The Scottish Terminal Manoeuvring Area (TMA) sponsors - Glasgow Airport, Edinburgh Airport and NATS EnRoute (NERL) completed their Stage 3 consultations in January 2026.

Their Stage 4 submission, expected this summer, will be their proposals to the CAA for airspace change in the Scottish TMA. Aberdeen Airport (outside the Scottish TMA cluster) made their Stage 4 Submission in December 2024 and now have a Stage 5 'Decide' Gateway in July 2026. At this point the CAA will decide on the suggested change.

As reported in December, to support the creation of UK Airspace Design Service (UKADS), several consultations were held and related policy documents published at the end of 2025 and into early 2026. Below are the timelines expected for feedback/progression:

- CAP3157 – CAA Consultation on the CAP1616 Airspace Change Process. The MAG response ANON-622E-FYX7-D was submitted in December 2025. It is understood that CAP1616 v6 (replacing the current CAP1616 v5.1) will be published this summer.
- CAP3158 – CAA Consultation on draft guidance and requirements for UKADS and CAP3159 – CAA Consultation on draft requirements and guidance for UKACS. MAG responses ANON-RN6G-VBKJ-A and ANON-4KUC-9UTM-6 were submitted in January 2026. Consultation response documents are expected in March/April 2026.
- Consultation on proposed revisions to the Air Navigation Guidance (ANG) and Air Navigation Directions (AND), responded to in January 2026. It is understood that responses and the proposed changes will be considered

against outputs of the Aviation Noise Attitudes Survey (ANAS) and the Aircraft Night Noise Effects (ANNE) study, later this year.

Details of all consultations, supporting documents and policy papers are available on the [UKADS webpages](#) on the [CAA website](#).

7.2 East Midlands Airport Airspace Change Proposal (ACP) update [ACP-2019-44](#)

As members will recall, in the Manchester Terminal Manoeuvring Area (TMA) there are Airspace Change Processes underway (between ground and 7,000ft) at East Midlands (EMA), Manchester (MAN), Liverpool John Lennon (LPL), and Leeds Bradford Airports (LBA). NATS En Route Ltd (NERL) are undertaking works above 7,000ft.

As previously outlined, Stage 3 requires sponsors to progress through the gateway and consult at the same time as the other sponsors in the TMA cluster. MAN, LPL, EMA and NERL all completed Stage 2 in 2023. After multiple failures and postponements, LBA passed their Stage 2 Gateway in February 2026. Now that all Manchester TMA sponsors have completed Stage 2, it is possible to define/agree a timeline towards a Stage 3 Gateway and so to consultation.

**EAST MIDLANDS AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (EMACC)
17 April 2026 - ENVIRONMENT UPDATE**

Climate change

Decarbonising Aviation is a strategic priority for East Midlands Airport and the wider Manchester Airports Group. We continue to deliver progress against our plan to decarbonise our own operations at East Midlands Airport. This year has seen the introduction of electric vehicles and the roll-out of biodiesel to reduce lifecycle emissions from our remaining diesel vehicles. Following year-end, we will provide more information about our decarbonisation performance in our Annual Report and Sustainability Reports, which will be published later in the year.

We are also playing a leading role in activity to decarbonise UK aviation and were pleased to see the Department for Transport publish provisional figures which show fuel suppliers exceeded mandate levels of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) in the first year of the Government's mandate. In 2025, the SAF mandate required fuel suppliers to provide 2% SAF. Provisional figures show that SAF made up 2.4% of aviation fuel supplied in 2025. In 2026, the mandate increases to 3.6%, ultimately rising to 10% in 2030 and 22% in 2040.

At the Sustainable Skies Summit in March, the Sustainable Aviation coalition, shared details of two MAG-led industry initiatives¹:

- Greenhouse Gas Removals Advanced Market Signal
Under the joint leadership of MAG and London Heathrow Airport, Sustainable Aviation announced a Greenhouse Gas Removals Advanced Market Signal. This first-of-its-kind initiative brings together seven aviation industry partners – including MAG – to invest over £2 million boost the market for carbon removals, which are an important part of aviation's decarbonisation plans. The initiative complements MAG's Sustainability Strategy target to scale carbon removals to cover 50% of our own residual emissions by 2030 and 100% by 2038.
- Non-CO₂ paper
In another MAG-led initiative, the coalition published a position paper exploring climate impacts from aviation's non-CO₂ emissions. The paper provides an overview of scientific research on this topic, and the activity Sustainable Aviation members are undertaking to address non-CO₂ emissions.

Noise Action Plan 2024 – 2028

The Flight Evaluation Unit has continued working on the actions within the Noise Action Plan, which are regularly reported to MENT. Our annual report on Noise Action Plan delivery was shared at MENT in February 2026.

Further work has continued on the review of Training Flight procedures (NAP23) which was presented to MENT and positively received. The flexibilities agreed, to avoid additional days operating the training aircraft, have been welcomed by all. The Flight Evaluation Unit has passed on feedback received to the operators who undertake training flights and to Air Traffic Control, thanking them for their co-operation and input into this review.

¹ More information about Sustainable Aviation's announcements are available online:
<https://www.sustainableaviation.co.uk/news/uk-aviation-industry-body-outlines-plans-to-boost-greenhouse-gas-removals-market-and-tackle-non-co2-emissions/>

More recently, our community noise portal 'Insightfull' has been promoted through a dedicated edition of the Airport Community flyer. <https://communitynoiseportal.eastmidlandsairport.com/>

A revised departure noise limit scheme has been developed, which introduces a daytime limit and a set of three nighttime limits based on the aircraft's Quota Count instead of the current Maximum Take Off Weight limits. The new limits will be shared at the next Pilot Liaison Group ahead of implementation later this year.

Community noise monitoring

Our noise monitoring network includes fixed noise monitors located in Castle Donington, Kegworth, Melbourne, Sutton Bonington, Weston-on-Trent and Wilson. Additional noise monitoring is also undertaken using a portable noise monitor.

We have installed a portable noise monitor at a site in Aston-on-Trent for the summer 2025 period, and the live data is on the airport's WebTrak system. The noise monitor remains on site due to the lower than usual number of training flights over the location. The report based was on data from the summer period (June-September 2025) has been written by an independent consultant and shared with MENT for comment. It will shortly be published on the airport website.

Another Noise Action Plan commitment is to analyse data from the array of permanent noise monitors, and an independent consultant has developed reports for the Kegworth and Weston-on-Trent monitors based on data from Summer 2025, which have also been shared with MENT and are due to be published on the airport website shortly.

EMA Surface Water Performance and Improvement Programme

Water management remained strong and well controlled throughout the winter season, despite prolonged cold spells and significant rainfall that created challenging conditions.

We continue to work closely with the Environment Agency to maintain robust oversight of the water network, and our programme of improvement activities remains on track.

As we transition into the summer operation, we will begin our heavy maintenance period to prepare for next winter, and we'll also engage a third-party consultant to develop new initiatives to further enhance the ponds.

PFAS and Regulation 61 Summary

Since the last update, work has commenced on conducting our monitoring programme agreed with the Environment Agency with results due to be submitted to them by 26 November this year. We are liaising with the Chemicals Regulation Team to keep them abreast of progress.

The updated timetable as set out as part of the Section 61 notice are shown below

Details	Deadline	Status	Comments
Full site survey, detailing all PFAS and non PFAS sources (historic & present)	26th May (3 months after serving notice)	Complete	Submitted reports for all 3 airports. Approved by the EA.

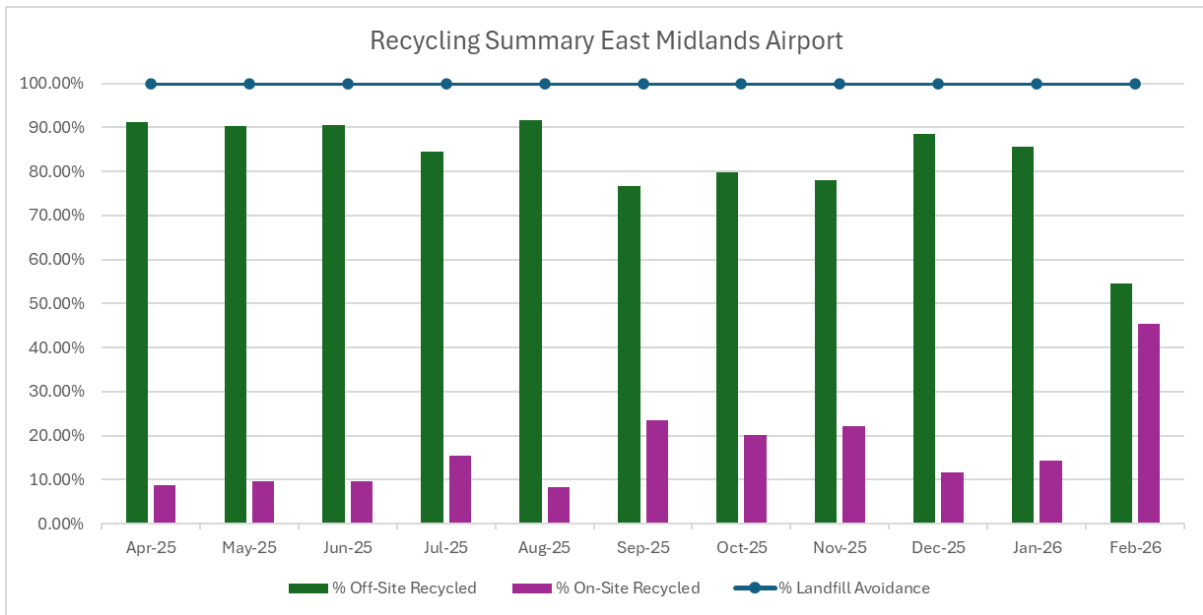
Screening PFAS – based on site survey, what will be sampled	26th June (4 months after serving notice)	Complete	Screen process completed and approved by EA.
Screening Non PFAS – based on site survey, what will be sampled	26th June (4 months after serving notice)	Complete	Screen process completed and approved by EA.
Screening – results	26th August (6 months after serving notice)	Complete	Submitted and approved
Monitoring Programme Plan (based on screening results) – send procedures for review by EA	26th October (8 months after notice served)	Complete	Re-submitted with reduced scope and approved.
Monitoring Programme Plan - results	(21 months after notice served) 26 November 2025 – 12-month extension granted by the EA. New deadline 26 November 2026	On-going	The monitoring programme is underway
Surface Water Risk Assessment	(22 months after notice served) 26 December 2025 – 12-month extension granted by the EA. New deadline 26 December 2026	Not Started	We are close to securing an external third party to assist in the development of the risk assessment

Waste Update

MAG has completed the Waste Service Provider (Facilities Management) tender process. The successful bidder was Churchills and will be supported by a company called First Mile acting as broker for the airport waste. They are currently being onboarded and will take control on 1 April 2026.

In the meantime, the partnership with Mitie Waste continues to maintain compliance with new regulations and ensure effective waste management practices.

Detailed from monitoring of the Waste Facilities Management contract, EMA continues to divert 100% of waste away from landfill as recorded from our waste management contract.



Multi-author report produced by:

Sue Thomas
**MAG Head of Noise and Community
 Engagement Strategy**

Martin Churley
MAG Head of Environment & Sustainability

James Ayre
EMA Asset Management Director

Adam Freeman
MAG Decarbonisation and ESG Director

**EAST MIDLANDS AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (EMACC)
PLANNING UPDATE – 17 April 2026**

Current / Pending Applications

1. Outline planning permission (means of access from A453 fixed; all other matters reserved for future determination) for the construction of employment floorspace (use classes B2/B8) with ancillary (integral) offices (use class E(g0 (i))); and associated infrastructure including earthworks. Internal estate road, parking, and landscaping (all). Land South of A453 Ashby Road, north of Hyams Lane, Castle Donington – 24/00727/OUTM – Validated 7 June 2024.

Recent Planning Resolutions

1. Demolition of existing building and storage units and erection of a new building to house the Engineering and Ground Operations teams for Jet 2- 25/01437/AIR- approved as Permitted Development 11th November 2025.

Planning Policy

North West Leicestershire Local Plan: The new Local Plan will address the future development needs of the district up to 2042. It will include site allocations and specific policies and criteria against which planning applications can be considered and also have regard to national policy including the National Planning Policy Framework.

The Council is currently working through all comments received last year on its draft plan and are aiming for public consultation on a full publication version of the Local Plan (Reg 19) in July/ August 2026 with the intention to submit to Government November/ December 2026.

South Derbyshire Local Plan: The Council are working on reviewing the adopted Local Plan Part 2 which sets out non-strategic policies and allocations against which future planning applications will be determined. Issues and Options consultation ran until the end of January 2026.

SEGRO EMG2: SEGRO have re-submitted a DCO application in October 2025, and it was accepted by PINS on 12th November. SEGRO have now embarked on the 'examination' stage of the process which runs for a strict 6-month period, ending 11th September 2026. EMA are registered as an Interested Party and are participating at all stages of this process in both hearing sessions and written representations.

EAST MIDLANDS AIRPORT GENERAL COMMITTEE (EMACC)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE – 17 April 2026

2026 Community Trust Survey

At EMA we run a Community Survey every other year to understand what members of our local community think about the work we are doing and to help shape what we do next. Our last survey took place in 2024 and received 163 responses from our local stakeholders. The feedback we received has shaped our work and helped us focus on the activities that matter most to you.

Since then, we've been busy putting your comments into action, including continuing to invest in our Community Fund, growing our volunteering programme, delivering actions in our Noise Action Plan including a review of our circuit training procedures, and producing stand-alone newsletters about environmental initiatives like the [EMA Insightful Community Noise Portal](#).

Hearing directly from local residents is incredibly helpful, and we'd love to know how you think we're doing this year. Please take a few minutes to fill in our new survey – [EMA Community Survey](#). Your views help shape our community work, thank you for being part of it!

Community Engagement activities

The EMA Parish Forum is held twice a year and in the past 12 months we have held meetings on 27th March and 11 November 2025. Our next meeting will be scheduled to take place early in May 2026.

Our 2026 programme of face-to-face outreach events is below and published on our website:

- Monday 6 April (11.00-14.00) - Kegworth Easter market in Kegworth Village Hall
- Saturday 11 April (11.00-15.00) - East Leake Village Hall Spring Fair
- Saturday 18 April (14.00-17.00) - Newton Solney Village Hall Open Day
- Monday 4 May (10.00-15.00) - Castle Donington May Market
- Saturday 4 & Sunday 5 July - Aston Well Dressing, All Saints Church
- Saturday 11 July (12.00-17.00) - Melbourne Fete and Carnival
- Sunday 12 July (09.00-17.00) - Ashby Show
- Saturday 5 Sept (13.00-17.00) - Diseworth Village Show

EMA Community Flyer is our quarterly e-newsletter, updating stakeholders and local people on our Sustainability Strategy initiatives. Anyone can sign up to receive our quarterly Community Flyer directly and you can read the latest flyer on our website [here](#).

MAG Youth Summit

East Midlands Airport hosted the UK's only Airport Youth Summit on 11 March at East Midlands Airport's Leonardo Hotel, where 75 young people from across the East Midlands, Manchester and Stansted regions took part in discussions which will help MAG shape its plans for growth and approach to sustainability.

Youth forums have operated at all three MAG airports for the past four years as part of our commitment to broaden our programme of stakeholder consultation and engagement with communities. MAG's Growth agenda has been the theme for the airports' Youth Forums this year, looking at MAG's investment programmes, growth strategies for all three airports, as well as how MAG airports minimise the impact of growth through its well-established Sustainability Strategy.

This was the third year that all three forums convened for the Group's Youth Summit, under the theme 'MAG – growing into the Future'. Sessions included equity, diversity and inclusion, MAG's plans and opportunities outside the UK and opening and closing remarks from the airport's Managing Director Steve Griffiths and MAG's Head of Noise and Community Engagement Strategy Sue Thomas.

East Midlands Airport's Operations Director Lauren Turner who was recently appointed by the Department for Transport as an Aviation Ambassador to promote the sector to the younger generation and under-represented groups, also spoke at the event.

She said: "As an Aviation Ambassador, I'm keen to use every opportunity to raise awareness of the many careers paths available to suit every skillset and use my own experiences to inspire young people, especially young women, to consider roles in aviation. Our Youth Summit is a great place to do that, as well as hearing from young people about how they would like to see the sector develop in the future."

Feedback from the summit event was positive from students and tutors alike. Some comments include "It's allowed me to share and discuss my views on the future of aviation while also increasing my awareness of what's going on behind the scenes," "I think it has given me perspective of what can be done to improve my future career and the way we look after the environment," "I feel like the MAG Youth Forum as given me an insight into MAG's efforts to improve sustainability and their effects on local communities. It also informed me of other roles within the aviation area."



Volunteering

Our target is 30% of all colleagues, and 100% of our leadership team to take part in social value and volunteering activities. This year EMA met these targets for a third consecutive year, with 306 (37%) of total staff have given over 4,900 hours – the equivalent of 613 days - to various volunteering projects. 61 of those were leaders within our business, which means that 100% of our leaders volunteered in our local community last year.

Steve Griffiths recently joined around 30 other airport volunteers to brave the cold weather and create a new 400m-long hedge along the northwest section of the Airport Trail. The trail is a walking route of just over six miles, passing by the East Midlands Aeropark, Castle Donington, a picnic area close to the eastern end of the runway and alongside the A453 between the airport and Diseworth. Offering views over local countryside as well as the airfield, it is popular with dog walkers as well as plane spotters. The new hedgerow will benefit the wildlife in that section of the trail as well as the people who come to visit and walk the trail.



Swarkestone Sailing Club is one of around 200 sailing clubs around the UK that provides opportunities for individuals with disabilities to enjoy sailing through Sailability sessions. These sessions run throughout the year, allowing participants to sail with the help of volunteers and adapted equipment. Sailability sailors have the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors, feel both the peace and exhilaration of getting out onto the water, get active, learn new skills and build confidence.

On 18 March a team of ten colleagues from across the airport joined regular Sailability club volunteers to spring clean ahead of the new sailing season. Activities included

jet-washing and handwashing around a dozen of the small boats and four larger boats used by the disabled sailors as well as jet-washing steps, pontoons, ramps, and walkways. Volunteers also mowed the lawns, sorted out waste items into skips and help organise the storage unit.

Gary Flint, a regular sailor at the Wednesday Sailability sessions said 'Thank you all so much. This is a great start to our sailing season. Your continued support and hard work in making our sailing possible is really appreciated.'



A team visited Redgate Farm Animal Sanctuary to volunteer in March, where regular volunteers care for a variety of animals including pigs, alpacas, cats and kittens, ducks, chickens, rabbits, sheep and goats, as well as offering a rehoming facility for many animals. The day involved mucking out animal enclosures, cleaning and tidying the sanctuary, preparing fresh meals for the animals and assisting with day-to-day tasks to keep animals happy and healthy.

Team leader Jaye said about the day 'I just wanted to reach out and say how much of a fantastic day we had volunteering yesterday at Redgate Sanctuary, the team was lovely, super accommodating and helpful. Ellie even adopted a rabbit and took it home. Some of my team members have even discussed long term volunteering with them on Saturdays'.



Festive season volunteering recap

Over the recent festive season, we were busy once again spreading joy to local neighbours, with treats and gifts for young and old in our local communities. Hundreds of gifts were wrapped and donated to a local food bank. Petra Parker, Food Hub Officer at South Derbyshire CVS said 'What a fantastic donation we have received today. Thank you so much for everything you are doing for us. Your ongoing support is making a huge difference to so many people'.



Every year the airport reaches out to our surrounding communities, with staff volunteering their time to support events that help create happy memories during this special season, including over 1,400 people receiving gifts from the airport. We kicked off the festive season by supporting local community group One Kegworth to create a magical Christmas experience for over 75-year-olds living in Kegworth. Guests were treated to afternoon tea and entertainment at the Crowne Plaza in Kegworth. At the end of the event every guest received a gift provided by the airport. Those who couldn't attend the event received Christmas hampers which were packed and delivered by volunteers, including the special gift.

Next, we treated local youngsters to a matinee performance of Cinderella - this year's Pantomime at Loughborough Town Hall. The airport gifted 190 tickets to children and their families from Cobden Primary School and Rendell Primary School in Loughborough, along with families of children with life-limiting illnesses being supported by Melbourne-based charity Me & Dee. The Airport even arranged for Santa and his elves to hand out gifts to all the children before the performance as well as treating them to ice-cream and drinks during the interval.



Later, airport staff pulled out all the stops to help make a very special flight to Lapland for children with terminal and life-limiting illnesses as magical and unforgettable as possible, thanks to national charity When You Wish Upon a Star.

Finally, we rounded off the festivities by arranging for Santa and his elves to visit three local schools, with gifts for all the children. During December we visited Kegworth Primary School, Cobden Primary School in Loughborough and Brackenfield SEN School in Long Eaton.



EMA Community Sponsorship Fund

During FY26 the EMA Community Sponsorship fund has donated £16,214 to 47 local groups and charities. This fund provides small grants up to £200 to support projects and events that benefit the local community and, without support, might otherwise not be able to take place. For example, the fund has supported Castle Donington Library to put on a number of fundraiser events this year including quiz nights in March and Oct and a Barn Dance in June. Pictured below are the winners of a music quiz and bingo night that took place in March and raised an amazing £510 for the library, which will go towards their utility bills.



Swap Shops and Sharewear donation

Encouraging our colleagues to recycle is a key part of supporting our new Sustainability strategy, so in December we held 'Swap Shops' in order to encourage our colleagues to bring in pre-loved articles and exchange them with each other. This great initiative helps to break the cycle of 'fast fashion' and give pre-loved items a new home. All the leftover clothing was donated to Sharewear, to go on and help those in need. Sharewear Clothing Scheme, based in Nottingham, offer free-of-charge clothing choices to people in economic difficulty, using a combination of a referral system for individuals and an outreach service for organisations. They have also recently received an EMA Community Fund Grant.

EMA Community Fund

This year (April 2025 to March 2026) the EMA Community Fund has awarded a total of £106,405 to 81 local charities and not-for-profit community groups and benefiting over 229,000 local people. You can find out more about applying for a grant on our website [here](#) .

Here are some recent examples of community initiatives that have received funding:

One Kegworth received £2,000 towards materials to build their 'Santa Sleigh' along with an event shelter and costumes.



West Area Project received £1,800 towards a foldable poolside wheelchair



Kegworth Town Cricket Club received £2,000 towards replacement cricket nets



Youth Landscapers Collective CIC recently won an EMA Community Fund grant of £1000 towards a range of equipment including an amp, microphones, keyboard, headphones, printer and a projector. These audiovisual tools and equipment will allow them to deliver their songwriting project to a high standard, as well as developing a reusable resource for the group's future. Youth Landscapers Collective is a youth-led arts and heritage group supporting young people's personal, practical and creative development through innovative, place-based programmes that support the local community. Their members (young people aged 13-25) design and deliver projects that are shaped entirely by their own interests.



Friends of Long Eaton Library Group recently won an EMA Community Fund grant of £2000 towards tables, chairs and a sofa, to help create a welcoming and relaxed new community space for the various mentoring services, advisory groups and community groups that make use of the library space. These groups include a knit and natter group, a home-schooling mum's group, 50+ forum, DAAS (Derbyshire Alcohol Advice Service), job coaches as well as tutors working with excluded pupils.



Marlborough Rovers Football Club, based in Moira near Swadlincote were recently awarded £1000 from the EMA Community Fund towards a printed gazebo, flags and a table to support their ongoing fundraising efforts. They received lots of positive comments on the design of their new gazebo at a recent fundraising event at a wet and windy Christmas market. Pictured are the Club's Under 14s parent volunteers.



Cllr Angus Sowter recently attended the opening event of West Bridgford Hockey Club for the unveiling of their new hockey club goals, thanks to a grant of £1000 from the East Midlands Airport Community Fund. Aisling Hooper from the hockey club said 'We are absolutely delighted with the pitch and hockey goals, and we are grateful to have the support of the EMA Community Fund'

