

UK Borders and Immigration System

UPT ETA
Engagement Event
General Aviation sGAR

Future Borders & Immigration System (FBIS)
October 2024



Agenda

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Universal Permission to Travel



Permission to Travel

To strengthen the UK's borders, those travelling to the UK (except British and Irish citizens) must seek permission to travel in advance.

The type of permission will depend on the person's own circumstances

NO CHANGE

British & Irish citizens will not need an ETA to travel to the UK.

Their passport will be evidence of their permission, if travelling from outside the Common Travel Area.

TRANSITION TO DIGITAL ONLY PRODUCTS

Visa nationals and those already **granted permission to enter or remain** will not need an ETA to travel to the UK.

Their entry clearance, biometric residence document, other physical document or **eVisa** will be evidence of their permission.

NEW

Those who **do not need a visa**, entry clearance or other specified immigration status will need an ETA to travel to the UK.

The **ETA** will be evidence of their permission.

Advance Passenger Information will be submitted to the Home Office via the Submit a General Aviation Report (sGAR) web service by the pilot, operator or agent. The Home Office will confirm whether the individual has a permission to travel to the UK.

Electronic Travel Authorisations (ETA)



What is an ETA?

Apply online for
an Electronic Travel
Authorisation (ETA)

ETA
APPLICATION

Enter details

To watch our
'What is an ETA'
video on YouTube,
please click
[here](#)

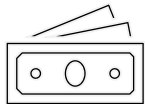
What is Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA)?



An ETA is advance permission to travel to, or transit through the UK, for those **who do not currently need to obtain a visa**, or **do not have a UK immigration status**.



An ETA will be valid for **2 years or until passport expires, whichever sooner** and for **multiple journeys** to the UK within that period.



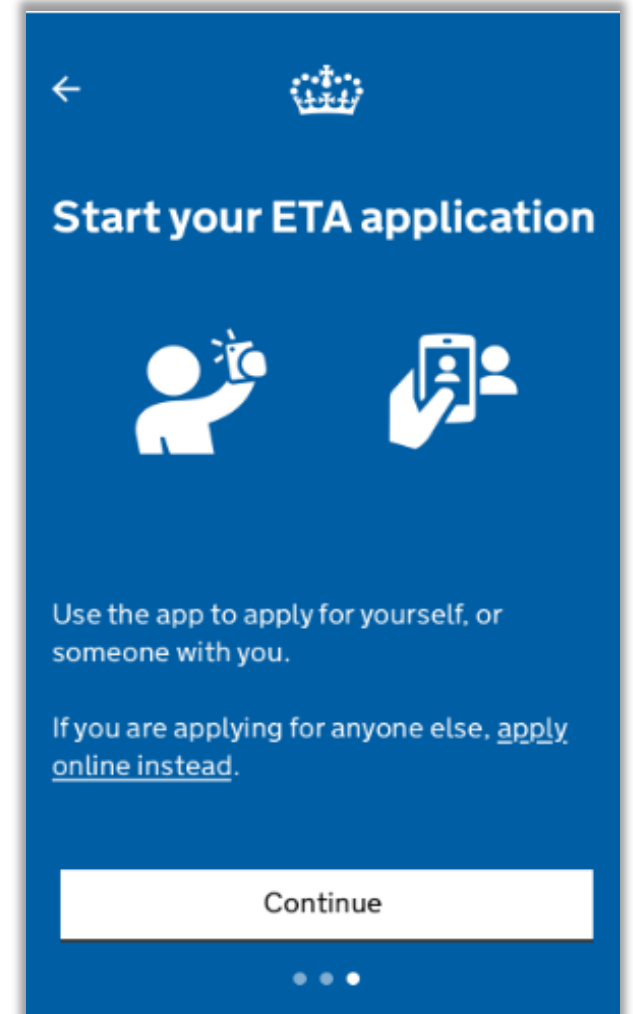
The cost of an ETA will be £10 per application.



The application process will be quick and light-touch via your mobile phone. Most applicants will receive a response within three working days, with many receiving a result sooner.



If successful, an ETA - **digital permission to travel** - will be granted.



Visa and non-visa nationals

What does a 'visa national' mean?

A visa national means this person requires a visa to come to the UK, for any purpose.

What does a 'non-visa national' mean?

A non-visa national means this person does not require a visa to visit the UK, but will need an ETA once they are launched, if they don't already hold an entry clearance.



You can check if an individual requires a visa at: [UK visa requirements \(accessible version\) - GOV.UK](#)

Who will need an ETA?



Who will need an ETA?

Eligible Non-Visa nationals

Infants and children

Tourism or visiting family and friends

Business trips or studying as a visitor (for up to 6 months)

Transiting through the UK

T5 Creatives

European Nationals will be eligible in 2025



Who will not need an ETA?

Visa nationals. They will continue to require a visa for travel and entry to the UK.

Those with permission to live, work or study in the UK

British or Irish Passport Holders (including dual nationals)

Non-visa national residents of Ireland will not require an ETA to travel to the UK on a journey being undertaken within the Common Travel Area (CTA). (They will need an ETA to travel to the UK from outside the CTA).

Exempt individuals such as Diplomats will still be exempt, this is not changing.

Rules around Contract Seafarers will remain the same.

What does not change:

- Your **existing obligations under the Section 40 of the UK Immigration & Asylum Act 1999**.
- You will still need to make **face to document checks**, to ensure the person presenting the passport is the rightful holder and the document appears genuine and is valid. For more information on checking passports and travel documents click here [Guidance on examining identity documents \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/guidance/guidance-on-examining-identity-documents)
- All **visa nationals will still require visas**, valid physical visas will continue to be checked in the usual way. The Home Office will continue the roll out of e-visas throughout 2024-2025. Follow this link to check [UK visa requirements \(accessible version\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/uk-visa-requirements)
- Non-visa nationals who already hold a visit visa (i.e. a 10-year visit visa which is still valid) will not require an ETA as the visa is their permission.



UK ETA Scheme: Rollout to date

- The **UK Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) scheme launched in October 2023**, when applications opened for Qatari nationals.
- In February 2024, visitors from the remaining GCC States (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates) were the next nationalities onboarded onto the scheme.
- Eligible non-Europeans can apply in advance from 27 November 2024 and will need an ETA to travel from 8 January 2025.
- Eligible Europeans can apply from 5 March 2025 and will need an ETA to travel from 2 April 2025.



Roll-out Phasing

Phase 1

Nov 23*
Feb 24

Qatar*
Saudi Arabia
Oman
Bahrain
Kuwait
UAE

Phase 2 Non-European nations

Apply from 27 November 2024
Use from 8 January 2025

Africa

Botswana
Mauritius
Seychelles

Americas

Antigua & Barbuda
Argentina
Barbados
Belize
Brazil
Canada
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Grenada
Guatemala
Guyana
Mexico
Nicaragua

Panama

Paraguay
Peru
St Kitts & Nevis
St Lucia
St Vincent & Grenadines
The Bahamas
Trinidad & Tobago
Uruguay
USA

Asia

Brunei
Hong Kong (SAR)
Israel
Japan
Macao (SAR)
Malaysia
Maldives
Singapore
South Korea
Taiwan

Oceania

Australia
Kiribati
Marshall Islands
Federated States of
Micronesia
Nauru
New Zealand
Palau
Papua New Guinea
Samoa
Solomon Islands
Tonga
Tuvalu

Phase 3 - European nations

Apply from 5th March 2025
Use from 2nd April 2025

EU/EEA & Swiss

Andorra
Austria
Belgium
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czechia
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Italy
Latvia

Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Monaco
Netherlands
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
San Marino
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Vatican City

UPT Response Messages



Current UPT Response Messages

Currently there are two responses which pilots, operators, and agents will receive via sGAR to help conduct pre-departure checks.

UPT Response Status	
VALID PERMISSION TO TRAVEL 	This confirms that the individual has a valid immigration permission and can board if they have a valid passport or travel document and that the passport or travel document presented is genuine and valid, and that the person is the rightful holder.
AUTHORITY TO CARRY GRANTED 	This means that you must check if this individual has a valid passport or travel document. For <u>visa nationals</u> you must also check for a valid immigration or exemption document. Follow this link to check UK visa requirements (accessible version) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) You should conduct a manual check for an immigration permission by: - Checking for a valid physical immigration document (such as a visa vignette or stamp etc.) Or - By using a sharecode which the individual can request from their UKVI account. Follow this link to access the service https://www.gov.uk/check-immigration-status If the individual has no exemption or proof of physical or digital permission, you may contact the Home Office for advice by calling the UK Border Force Carrier Support Hub 0300 369 0610

Demo Passenger Response Page

This demo page shows the responses that are shown to help pilots, operators and agents conduct their checks.



Submit a General Aviation Report (GAR)

[GARs](#) [Aircraft](#) [People](#) [Responsible person](#) [Create organisation](#) [Account](#)

[Sign out](#) [Help & Guidance](#)

Section 9 of 9

Passenger Check

Each person in your journey will now be checked for permission to travel.

!

You do not need to wait for this process to complete before submitting your GAR.

Status	Passenger	Permission to Travel
This process is now complete.		
	Paul Thomas	▶ Authority to carry granted
	peter passion	▶ Valid permission to travel

Submit your GAR

By submitting this General Aviation Report you are confirming that, to the best of your knowledge, the information you are providing is correct and you have the explicit permission of the persons named in this report to submit information on their behalf.

Submit GAR

DO NOT BOARD

There may be individuals whose travel to the UK must be prevented, these are individuals in scope of the Authority to Carry Scheme 2023. In order to prevent travel, the pilot, operator or agent will receive a telephone call and an email from the National Border Targeting Centre (NBTC) informing them that they do not have authority to carry a specific individual to the UK.

The on-screen response message will remain the same, however the pilot, operator or agent must act on the advice and instructions given by the NBTC and they must not carry the individual to the UK.

IMPORTANT:

Pilots, operators and agents are expected to follow the on-screen permission to travel instructions unless they receive a call from the National Border Targeting Centre (NBTC) advising them not to board the individual.

Follow this link for further information [Authority to Carry Scheme 2023 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/authority-to-carry-scheme-2023)

Status	Passenger	Permission to Travel
This process is now complete.		
●	Tim Jones	▶ Valid permission to travel
●	Tom Jukes	▶ Authority to carry granted

UPT Response Messages

This table shows the existing UPT responses and the upcoming responses that will be added to the sGAR web user service in due course. Before those responses are added full details will be provided to support pilots, operators and agents ahead of the change.

Sector	Existing/ Upcoming	FBIS CODE	UPT Response	Brief Description
Board	Existing	0A	VALID PERMISSION TO TRAVEL	The Home Office can find a valid permission to travel for the individual
Check	Upcoming	0B	NO RECORD OF VALID PERMISSION TO TRAVEL	A manual check is needed to determine whether the individual has an immigration permission
	Existing	0Z	AUTHORITY TO CARRY GRANTED	A manual check is needed to determine whether the individual has an immigration permission if they require one
	Upcoming	0P	PERMISSION DECISION PENDING	A manual check is needed to determine whether the individual has an immigration permission
No Board	Manual Contact	1Z	AUTHORITY TO CARRY REFUSED. DO NOT BOARD.	Currently this message communicated directly via a phone call and email from Border Force
Error	Upcoming	0T	SYSTEM TIME OUT	A system error has occurred, and further instruction will be provided to explain how to proceed
	Existing	4Z	INSUFFICIENT DATA	A system error has occurred, and further instruction will be provided to explain how to proceed

Passenger and Crew Handling Guidance



Passengers



Once ETA is enforced, all passengers, except British and Irish nationals, will require an immigration permission to travel to the UK, regardless of whether they intend to disembark in the UK.

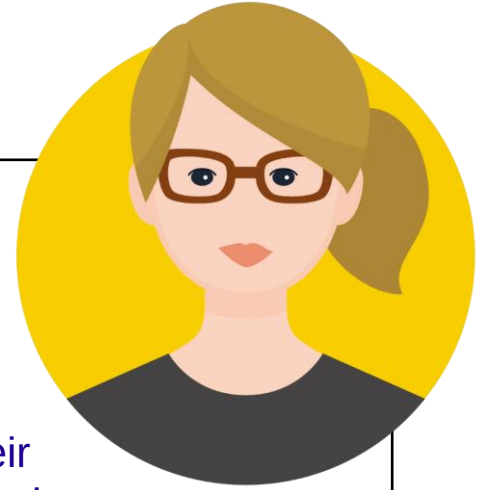
This means:

Visa nationals travelling to the UK will require a visa/valid immigration permission, or exemption as they do now.

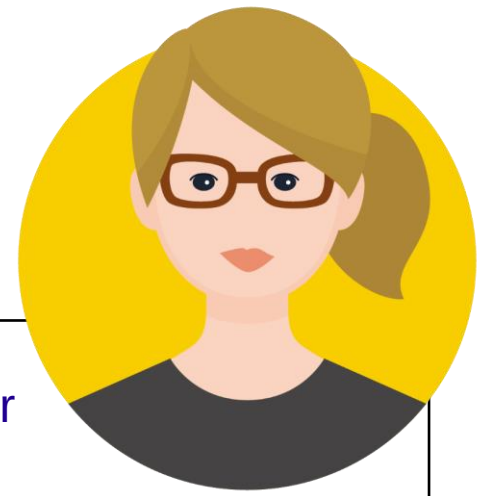
Non visa nationals who do not already hold a visa, other valid immigration permission, or exemption, regardless of whether they intend to leave the ship, will be required to have a valid ETA if the ship is calling in the UK.

EU, EEA and Swiss citizens national ID cards

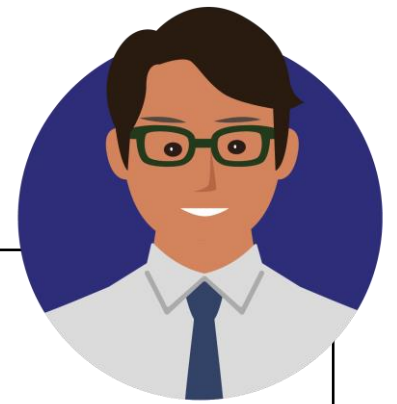
- Since 1 October 2021, EU, EEA and Swiss visitors (with the exception of those who have protected rights under the Citizens' Rights Agreement) need a valid passport to enter the UK rather than a national ID card.
- If a passenger claims to be eligible to use a national ID card to travel to the UK, and has updated their UK Visas & Immigration (UKVI) account with the details of their national identity card, carriers will receive a Valid Permission to Travel response message which they can rely on as evidence that the passenger is able to use their national identity card to enter the UK.



Dual nationals



- Dual nationals must travel on the passport which they used to apply for their ETA, as their ETA will be linked to their passport.
- British and Irish citizens who are also dual nationals do not require an ETA.
- British Citizens who are also dual nationals should prove their permission to travel by holding a British passport or other passport containing a Certificate of Entitlement to the Right of Abode. If a passenger holds a valid genuine British passport or another passport containing a genuine Certificate of Entitlement to the Right of Abode, this may be accepted as permission to travel.
- Irish citizens who are also dual nationals should prove their permission to travel by holding an Irish passport or passport card. If a passenger holds a valid genuine Irish passport or passport card, this may be accepted permission to travel.
- In all cases, carriers should continue to ensure that any British or Irish documents held by passengers are genuine and held by the rightful holder.



- Crew are covered by different parts of legislation.
- A member of crew, who meets the requirements of s8(1) of IA 1971, and is operating in and out of the UK within 7 days of arrival will not require a permission. Crew API will be processed in the same way as it is today;

carriers remain liable for ensuring that individuals have the correct permissions in accordance with section 8(1) of IA 1971.
- **Deadheading and positioning crew require leave to enter – so they should have permission to travel, or the carrier will incur a liability.**
- Non-visa national crew members who qualify under Section 8(1) of the Immigration Act i.e. are operating crew both in and out of the UK within 7 days of arrival will be exempt from the ETA requirement.
- Crew who are deadheading (or positioning) or who otherwise do not qualify under 8(1) will require an ETA. Carriers need to ensure that crew members who are deadheading have the correct permission to travel to the UK prior to departure.

Remaining ETA Rollout Application Window – Key dates & changes

Key Dates	What will change for passengers	What this means for pilots, operators and agents
From 27th November 2024 to 8th January 2025	ETA applications will open for non-visa nationals of the non-European nations .	If passengers hold an ETA during this period (27 th November 2024 to 8 th January 2025) they can still travel to the UK.
From 8th January 2025 until the end of implementation period before ETA is enforced (Date TBC)	Non-visa nationals of the non-European nations will require an ETA to travel to the UK. Passengers must apply for an ETA before travelling to the UK. If the outcome of their ETA application has not been decided before their departure date, they can still travel to the UK pending a decision.	As with all non-visa nationals, carriers will not be liable for a penalty charge related to permission to travel checks. However, they must continue to check and satisfy themselves that the passenger's travel document is genuine and that they are the rightful holder. During the phased roll-out of ETA, passengers will not be refused at the border, nor should they be refused boarding if they do not hold an ETA. However, if pilots, operators, and agents encounter a passenger who is concerned they do not have an ETA before travel, they should encourage them to apply before their departure and can still carry them pending a decision.

Passenger Handling Scenarios

Nationals of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates moved to non-visa national status and require an ETA.

Passenger Scenario		
During the Application Window (27 th November 2024 – 8 th January 2025)		
1	An eligible non-European passenger who already holds a UK visa or immigration status.	Valid Permission to Travel
2	An eligible non-European passenger has applied and is granted an ETA. They attempt to travel to the UK prior to 8 th January 2025 with an ETA, they do not hold a valid visa or other UK immigration status.	Valid Permission to Travel
From 8 th January 2025 until the end of implementation period before ETA is enforced (Date TBC)		
3	An eligible non-European passenger is concerned as they have only just realised they need an ETA to travel to the UK, and the plane is due to depart imminently.	Valid Permission to Travel
4	An eligible non-European passenger holds a valid UK visa or Biometric Resident's Permit. The passenger will not require an ETA, as the valid visa or Biometric Resident's Permit is their permission.	Valid Permission to Travel

eVisa Overview



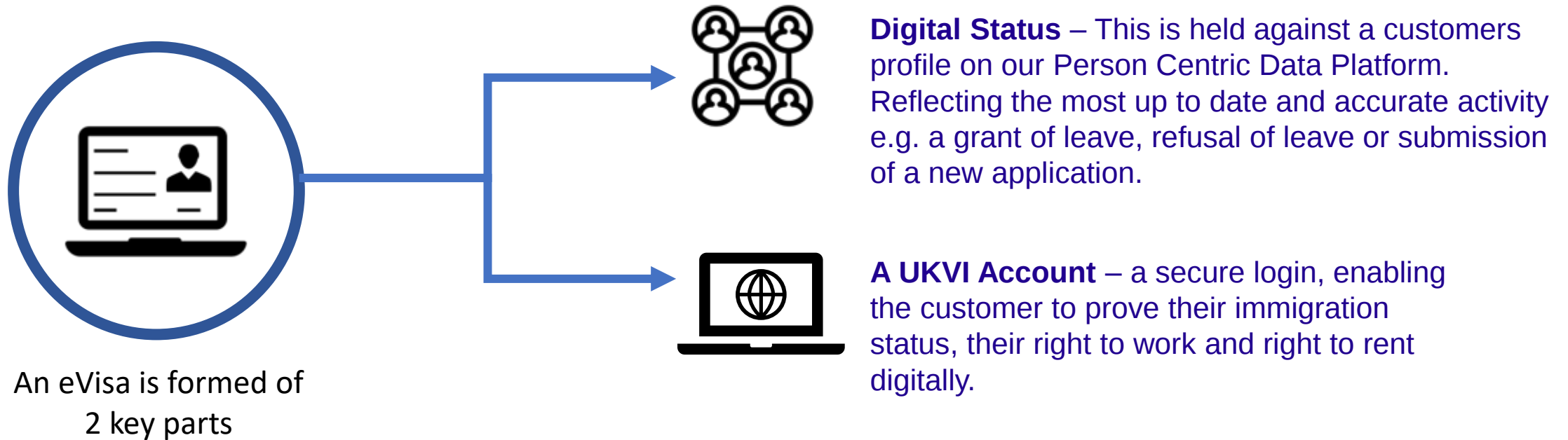
eVisa Overview



- UK Government is developing a border and immigration system that is “digital by default”
- Physical immigration documents such as biometric residence permits (BRPs) and visa vignette stickers are being phased out and replaced with eVisas – an electronic record including a person’s immigration conditions.
- eVisas can be viewed, checked, and shared online or via interfaces that allow rapid, high-volume confirmation of people’s immigration status and associated permissions.
- Our aim is to move to a purely digital solution for BRP holders by the end of 2024 and for vignette only products later in 2025.

What is an eVisa?

An eVisa is an online record of a customer's immigration status and the conditions of their permission to enter or stay in the UK. Customers will need to create a UKVI account to be able to access their eVisa. This eVisa **removes the requirement for physical documents** such as Visa vignettes (physical visa sticker in passport), or the Biometric Residence Permits (BRP).



Checking immigration permissions

- Visa nationals should receive a Valid Permission to Travel response if they have an eVisa which is linked to the passport or travel document they are travelling on.
- When the Authority to Carry response is returned for a visa national the following steps should be followed to establish:
 - **If the passenger has a valid immigration permission or exemption**
 - **If the passenger is travelling on the travel document linked to their UKVI account**

Permission - Ask the passenger if they have an exemption or valid UK immigration permission	No	No permission – Direct passenger to GOV.UK
	No	Exempt - Check exemption documents
	Yes	Ask About Passport/Travel Docs – ask the passenger if they are travelling on the passport or travel doc linked to their permission. • If no, passenger can log into their UKVI account and update their details. • If yes, pilots, operators or agents can conduct a manual check: ○ Check for a valid physical document ○ Check the passenger's immigration status on Gov.UK using the Share Code function ○ Call Carrier Support Hub for advice

Passenger Permission Summary

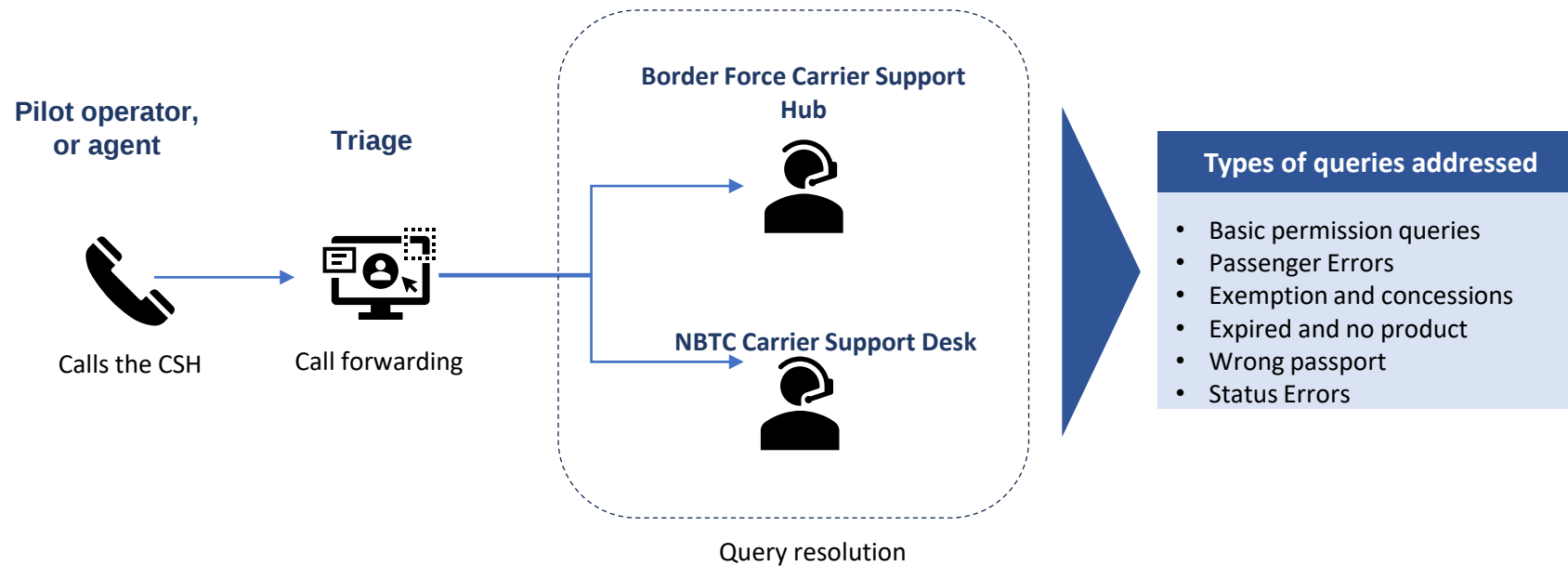
Passenger Type	UK UPT Requirements (Journeys to the UK from outside the CTA)	What this means for pilots, operators and agents
British and Irish Citizens	Their passport is their permission	No change (they can board if they have a valid passport or travel document, if the passport or travel document presented is genuine and valid, and that the person is the rightful holder).
Visa Nationals	As now all visa nationals will require a visa/valid immigration permission, or exemption.	As above passport/ travel document checks must be satisfied as well as immigration permission checks. As we transition to digital only products, passengers may have digital only products which can be checked using share code if required.
Non-Visa Nationals eligible to apply for an ETA + All other Non-Visa Nationals (Including European Nationals eligible from 2025)	As the ETA rollout continues, non-visa nationals who require an ETA should obtain one before travelling to the UK.	As above passport/ travel document checks must be satisfied. If these passengers have a valid ETA, a positive UPT response should be returned. Until ETA is enforced pilots, operators and agents should familiarise themselves with the new requirements during the ETA rollout period. During the phased roll-out of ETA, passengers will not be refused at the border, nor should they be refused boarding if they do not hold an ETA. However, if pilots, operators and agents encounter a passenger who does not have an ETA before travel, they should encourage them to apply before their departure and allow them to board.

Carrier Support



UK Border Force Carrier Support Hub

If pilots, operators and agents require advice, the UK Border Force Carrier Support Hub, is a **24/7 support function** within the Home Office, to answer all queries related to a passenger's permission to travel to the UK.



If you require advice about a passenger's permission to travel, please call:

0300 369 0610 or +44 204 619 6020 from outside the UK

Future Engagement



Future Engagement

Regularly updated [ETA](#) and [eVisa](#) partner packs

Updated sGAR Information Pack

Future engagement on ETA Rollout



Glossary

Glossary

Abbreviation	Term
API	Advance Passenger Information
ATC	Authority to Carry
BRP/C	Biometric Residence Permit/ Cards
BN(O)	British National (Overseas)
CLS	Carriers Liability Scheme
CL	Carriers Liability
CTA	Common Travel Area
ETA	Electronic Travel Authorisation
EVW	Electronic Visa Waiver
eVisa	Electronic Visa
FBIS	Future Border & Immigration System
NBTC	National Border Targeting Centre
sGAR	Submit a General Aviation Report
UKVI	UK Visas and Immigration
UPT	Universal Permission to Travel