Birmingham Airport



The UK Central Airport Gateway

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Foreword

Birmingham Airport is a vital part of the West Midlands' economic infrastructure. With an ideal location in the heart of the UK Central Hub together with Birmingham International Station, the M42 motorway and the future HS2 station at Arden Cross, the airport delivers excellent connectivity with other parts of the UK, Europe and the rest of the world through an ever growing network of destinations.

Such great connectivity drives economic growth for the whole region, whether it be greater foreign company inward investment; businesses already located in the region growing their international reach; improved supply chains for goods inbound or outbound; increased numbers of business visitors to conferences and fairs at venues such as the National Exhibition Centre or International Convention Centre; or growth in inbound tourism to the region.

In total, it is estimated that the Airport contributes around £3.75 billion to our region, delivering over 57,000 jobs and supporting the continued success in many of our core industries such as Aerospace, Automotive and Advanced Manufacturing.

This report showcases the critical role the Airport plays in the ongoing economic success of this region we call home, reinforcing it as an industrial powerhouse in the heart of England.

Richard Parker
Mayor of the West Midlands

Birmingham Airport and industry in the West Midlands have a mutually beneficial relationship, with the growth and success of one having a directly positive benefit to the other.

We work extremely closely with business in the region, ensuring that we continue to grow by attracting airlines to operate to the places that both business and leisure travellers want to go to.

As Richard highlights, the Airport drives economic growth and employment for the whole region. This of course includes jobs at the Airport, currently employing around 9,300 people on site, offering a wide range of high value careers including air traffic controllers, engineers, flight and cabin crew, fire services staff, customer services roles and a wide range of office based roles.

We are passionate about staff training, including a variety of apprenticeship opportunities, in turn giving people the ability to progress their careers at the airport.

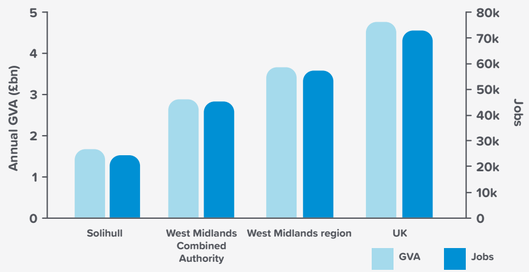
Birmingham Airport is the second largest airport in England outside of London, handling just under 14 million passengers in 2025. We expect this number to grow over the forthcoming decade, which in turn will support additional job creation both at the airport and throughout the region, delivering further economic prosperity for the whole of the West Midlands.

Nick Barton
Chief Executive of Birmingham Airport

Executive summary

Birmingham Airport (BHX) contributes **£3.75 billion a year** to the West Midlands economy, supporting over **57,000 jobs.** BHX is not just a transport facility serving the Midlands. It is part of the region's economic infrastructure.

Gross Value Added (GVA) and jobs by study area



Birmingham Airport:

- helps the region deliver on people through jobs and local economic activity.
- helps businesses through connectivity and productivity.
- is a key anchor for development in the strategic hub represented by Solihull, the NEC, Arden Cross and the wider growth corridor.
- provides a vital gateway to the region that is central to it realising its growth aspirations.

Birmingham Airport today

Birmingham Airport is the **Midlands' principal international airport** and one of the UK's most **significant regional gateways.**

In 2025, BHX handled 13.7 million passengers, the highest annual figure in its history, and a significant increase compared to 2014 when 9.7 million passengers passed through the Airport. Over the same period, freight volumes have increased rapidly from 5,100 tonnes to 62,000 tonnes. This strong growth in activity reflects the Airport's expanding role as a gateway for connectivity, trade and investment.

This growth has translated into a much larger economic footprint across the West Midlands. In real terms, BHX's economic contribution from its operation alone has more than doubled, reaching around £1.3 billion in GVA, while the number of jobs supported across the West Midlands has increased by around 60% to approximately 20,000.

BHX is currently home to around 31 airlines serving 145 direct destinations throughout the UK, Europe and beyond, and offering more than 650 one-stop destinations. 12% of passengers are travelling for business reasons and 12% of passengers were foreign visitors to the region for both business and leisure purposes in 2025.

Located at the centre of the Midlands economy, the Airport also benefits from a substantial catchment accessible to approximately 9.2 million people within a one hour drive of the airport, or 13.3 million within 90 minutes' drive. The latter equates to over one fifth of the population of England and Wales. That centrality is a major part of its economic significance.

145 direct destinations

650+ one-stop destinations

13.7 million passengers in 2025

BHX 90-mile catchment area

When direct services exist BHX dominates passenger share from an inner core catchment area.

Catchment 0-90-miles from BHX **29.9m population** = **Outer** 60-90-miles from BHX **17.8m population** + **Core** 30-60-miles from BHX **6.8m population** + **Inner Core** 0-30-miles from BHX **5.3m population**

Source: ONS 2021 30, 60, 90-mile radius from BHX

BHX frequency share 13.9%

BHX 3.6% passenger share

BHX 17.2% passenger share

BHX 65.1% passenger share

Source: OAG Schedule Analyser

Source: ASM Catchment Analyser 2024 – served hub routes AMS, CDG, DUB, DXB, FRA, IST & MUC



Source: smappen 30, 60, 90-mile driving distance from BHX

Birmingham Airport and the West Midlands Growth Plan

The West Midlands today

The West Midlands is big. It contains Britain's second largest city, and the region is amongst the top 20 largest metro areas in Europe in terms of population.

It is a fast growing population with a young and diverse demographic, and attracts significant levels of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) – second only to London in the UK, and amongst the top 20 regions throughout Europe that attract such investment.

The West Midlands Growth Plan is built around an agenda for regional growth based on better opportunities for people, more productive and outward-facing businesses, building prosperity and resilience and a more confident regional story.

BHX already contributes to many of the key objectives, for example:

- It helps businesses by strengthening productivity, making the region more investable and reducing the friction of doing business across national and international markets.
- The airport helps people through direct employment, supply-chain activity and wider catalytic jobs across aviation, logistics, hospitality, retail, events, professional services and the visitor economy.
- It helps places by anchoring activity in Solihull, supporting the NEC and Interchange economy, and connecting firms and visitors across the wider city-region.
- It helps the Midlands story by giving the region a visible, internationally facing front door.

Through the connectivity it provides, BHX boosts the wealth of the region, increases resilience and prosperity, anchoring activity in Solihull, the broader East Birmingham North Solihull Corridor and indeed the whole West Midlands region and beyond.





Highlights of the Growth Plan vision

West Midlands Key Strengths

£77bn
economy home to the UK's second city, one of the 20 largest cities in Europe

2nd
largest, fastest-growing, youngest and most diverse population

Top 20
regions for foreign direct investment (FDI) in Europe, and second only to London in the UK for the number of jobs created by FDI

90%
of the UK population is within a 4-hour journey, and set to benefit from HS2 connectivity

The key elements of the economic vision are:

- Empowering the people of the West Midlands to get on in life.
- Driving Business Productivity - enabling the businesses of the West Midlands to become more productive and provide good jobs, by strengthening:
  - Our high growth clusters and innovation ecosystem
  - Business productivity and investment
  - The everyday economy
- Making the places of the West Midlands more prosperous and resilient.
- Telling the West Midlands' story and strengthening its partnerships.

The economic impact of the Airport operation is considerable. Within the West Midlands Combined Authority area, BHX supports an estimated £2.93 billion of Gross Value Added (GVA) and 45,500 jobs. Across the wider West Midlands region, that rises to £3.75 billion of GVA and 57,700 jobs.

In Solihull alone, the airport supports £1.65 billion of GVA and 22,400 jobs. These impacts include both the employment and economic value of on-site operations, delivering on a wide range of high quality job opportunities across the Airport campus.

Key regional strengths

The West Midlands is particularly **strong in key sectors** that form part of the Government's **Industrial Strategy**, many of which rely on global markets and **global investment**.

In this report, we explain how the connectivity provided by the Airport supports both the activity in these sectors and attracts new investors.



Advanced Manufacturing

273,000
jobs supported

£22bn
contributes to the regional economy per annum

£160m
advanced manufacturing focused West Midlands Investment Zone backed by £160 million over 10 years by the UK government

6,000
high-value manufacturing jobs potential from the Coventry-Warwick Investment Zone

Automotive

1 in 3
cars manufactured in the UK are produced in the West Midlands

1/3
of UK automotive jobs are in the West Midlands

5,000
new jobs could be created in the EV & battery sector over the next decade

241
hectare Coventry & Warwick Gigapark focused on EV supply chain, battery technology & future mobility

Aerospace

150+
aerospace companies form a world leading specialist cluster

Regional
Regional capabilities span aero-engine technologies, advanced aircraft systems and aero-structures

Aerospace
Aerospace cluster is supported by leading innovation centres such as the Manufacturing Technology Centre (MTC), UK Battery Industrialisation Centre, Horiba Mira

8,000
jobs in the aerospace sector in the West Midlands

Global names

IMETSECI · WESTLEY GROUP · RobinsonBrothers · HADLEY GROUP

JAGUAR · LAND ROVER · Collins Aerospace · ROLLS ROYCE · SAFRAN AEROSPACE · DEFENCE · SECURITY

ASTON MARTIN · BMW · LEVC

Parker · MEGGiTT



Key sectors

Advanced Manufacturing and Automotive

West Midlands hosts key manufacturing companies including Jaguar Land Rover and Collins Aerospace, with Aston Martin and JCB in the wider region, alongside leading research institutions including Horiba Mira, MTC, Warwick Manufacturing Group, UK BIC and Harper Adams. Overall, a third of all British-made cars roll off West Midlands production lines with growing electric vehicle and battery capabilities.

Defence

The West Midlands has strengths including Combat Air, Maritime Capabilities, Military Land Vehicles and Drones and Autonomous Systems. There are key defence manufacturing sites such as Hadley Castle Works Factory in Telford, whilst cyber security strengths are enabled by significant innovation hubs.

Digital and Technologies

The West Midlands is one of the UK's fastest-growing tech hubs, with supply-side strengths in AI, quantum, cyber, robotics, and advanced communications technologies. It hosts major assets including the UK Telecoms Lab, Wolverhampton Cyber Research Institute, Birmingham Institute for Quantum Technologies, and the Sir Peter Rigby Digital Futures Institute. The region produces 66,000 tech graduates annually and is home to the UK's first multi-city 5G tested and the Diatomic Digital Twin.

Creative Industries

The West Midlands has 15,130 creative enterprises generating nearly £4 billion in GVA in 2022. With an innovation focus on CreaTech, the region offers significant R&D opportunities to maximise converging technological expertise. On the HS2 line, Digbeth hosts Digbeth Loc Studios and the BBC, supporting a growing creator economy and diverse cultural ecology. The region also boasts outstanding craft and design expertise, reflected in Birmingham's World Craft City status.

Clean Energy Industries

The West Midlands is a Smart Energy Systems cluster, with innovation assets such as Energy Systems Catapult, Tyseley Energy Park, tech scale-ups and major players including Octopus, Cadent, National Grid, EON and Hitachi. The GE Verona Stafford expansion is projected to deliver 600 jobs, providing facilities for production of critical components including high-voltage direct current transformers.



Professional & Business Services

The West Midlands is home to SuperTech, the UK's only supercluster focused on 'next generation' professional services and related technology. It has access to vital client and talent pools through excellent connectivity to London, the rest of the UK and international destinations. It has a strong higher education base for talent and skills and R&D expertise, with three globally ranked business schools with 'triple-crown' MBA accreditation, and the unique Greater Birmingham Professional Services Academy.

Life Sciences

The West Midlands has a £5bn biopharma and £2bn MedTech turnover. It's home to the third highest number of MedTech sites in the UK, with over 500, as well as nine world-leading universities and four medical schools producing 11,000 medical science graduates a year plus the largest UK trial environment. Key hubs include Birmingham Health Innovation Campus, Birmingham Knowledge Quarter, Arden Cross and West Midlands Health-Tech Accelerator.

Financial Services

Birmingham is a large and historic financial services hub, with HSBC, Lloyds Banking Group and Deutsche Bank operating in the city. It has a large fintech sub-sector that employs thousands in the region, and Goldman Sachs opened a new technology office in Birmingham in 2021. The West Midlands benefits from good domestic and international transport links, a deep and diverse talent pool, and broader professional services ecosystem with firms such as PwC, EY, Deloitte and KPMG operating here.

Driving business productivity

The Airport is an integral part of the **major transport hub** within UK Central Solihull, which includes **Birmingham International Rail Station** and the future Arden Cross **HS2 Interchange** coupled with the extensive motorway system at the heart of the UK road network.

Its critical location helps the West Midlands to operate as a more connected market both nationally and internationally, creating economies of scale and supporting the clustering of economically beneficial activity.

One of the Airport's most important economic effects is not always the most visible. It lies in the way BHX helps businesses use time better. Faster access to meetings, clients, suppliers, investors, specialist labour and overseas markets can improve how firms operate, so contributing to improving productivity and making regional businesses more competitive.

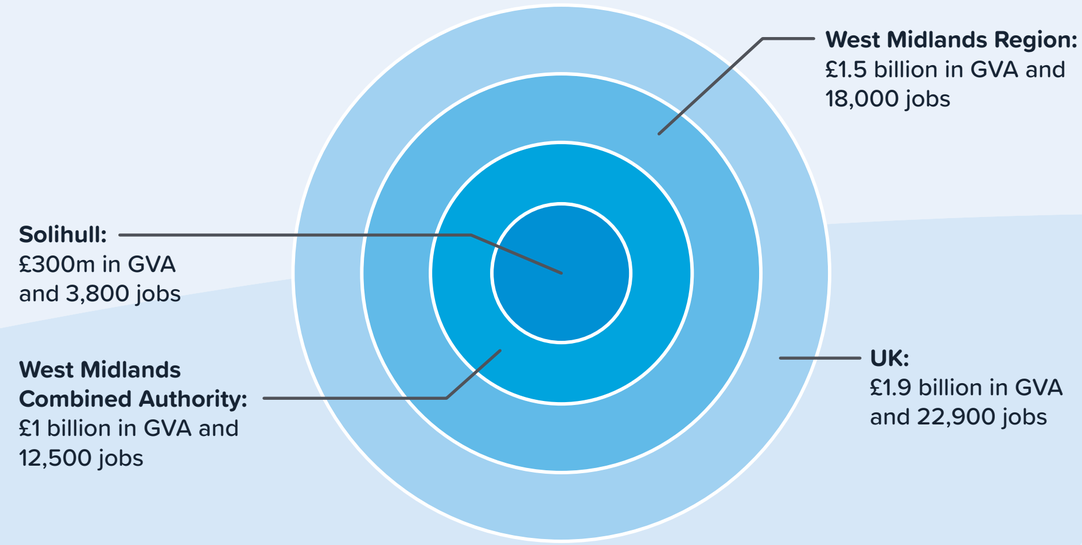
That means the Airport's value is not confined to direct jobs on site but the wider benefits of connectivity. This is especially relevant for a region, such as the Midlands, that wants to raise output and competitiveness.

For many firms, the real benefit of an airport is the ability to get somewhere quickly, respond to opportunities faster, maintain relationships more effectively and reduce the friction that distance creates. That applies to manufacturers, professional services, health innovators, exporters, event organisers and universities alike.

The role of the Airport in supporting business connectivity is clear:

- BHX is a powerhouse for business travel, with an estimated 1.6 million business passengers each year choosing it as their gateway to growth, connectivity, and opportunity.
- BHX serves around 60% of business passengers in the West Midlands market.
- The manufacturing sector represents around 26% of BHX's total business passenger market, making it the airport's single largest industry segment for business travel and highlighting the strong connection between the airport and the regional manufacturing sector.

Business productivity benefits from improved connectivity



Supporting investment and the wider economy

A key focus of the West Midlands Growth Plan is the **infrastructure, locations and connections** that make the regional economy work.

BHX sits within one of the Midlands' most important growth corridors: Solihull-M42-NEC-Arden Cross-Interchange, with strong links to Birmingham city centre, Coventry, the Black Country and the wider region. One of the reasons that this area is so well connected is the surface access improvement to road and rail links to serve the Airport.

This location – known as 'The Hub UK Central' - gives the Airport significance beyond passenger numbers. It helps anchor business activity in Solihull, strengthens the events and exhibition economy around the NEC, supports the Interchange area as a nationally connected location, and makes it easier for firms, workers and visitors to move between the region's major centres. This connectivity has been instrumental in attracting businesses both locally and to the broader region. It is perhaps no coincidence that one major regional property agent reported that 68% of property let in Solihull in 2025 was close to Junction 6 and the Airport.

The Midlands' economic strategy depends on competing for mobile capital, skilled people, major events, new business activity and international attention. BHX strengthens that wider proposition by giving executives, investors, site selectors, specialist teams and customers practical access to the region and its growth locations. It also helps Midlands-based firms reach clients, suppliers and partners more easily. This matters because the sectors that the region is backing all benefit from quick, reliable connectivity.

BHX is, therefore, a key enabler of inward investment and business growth. For a region seeking to attract investment and support growth outside London, the airport is part of the credibility of the offer, helping the Midlands feel internationally connected in a practical, day-to-day way.



Image supplied courtesy of West Midlands Growth Company.

“Birmingham Airport gets us on the shortlist for foreign investment – it’s an essential ‘hygiene’ factor without which many foreign investors would not invest”

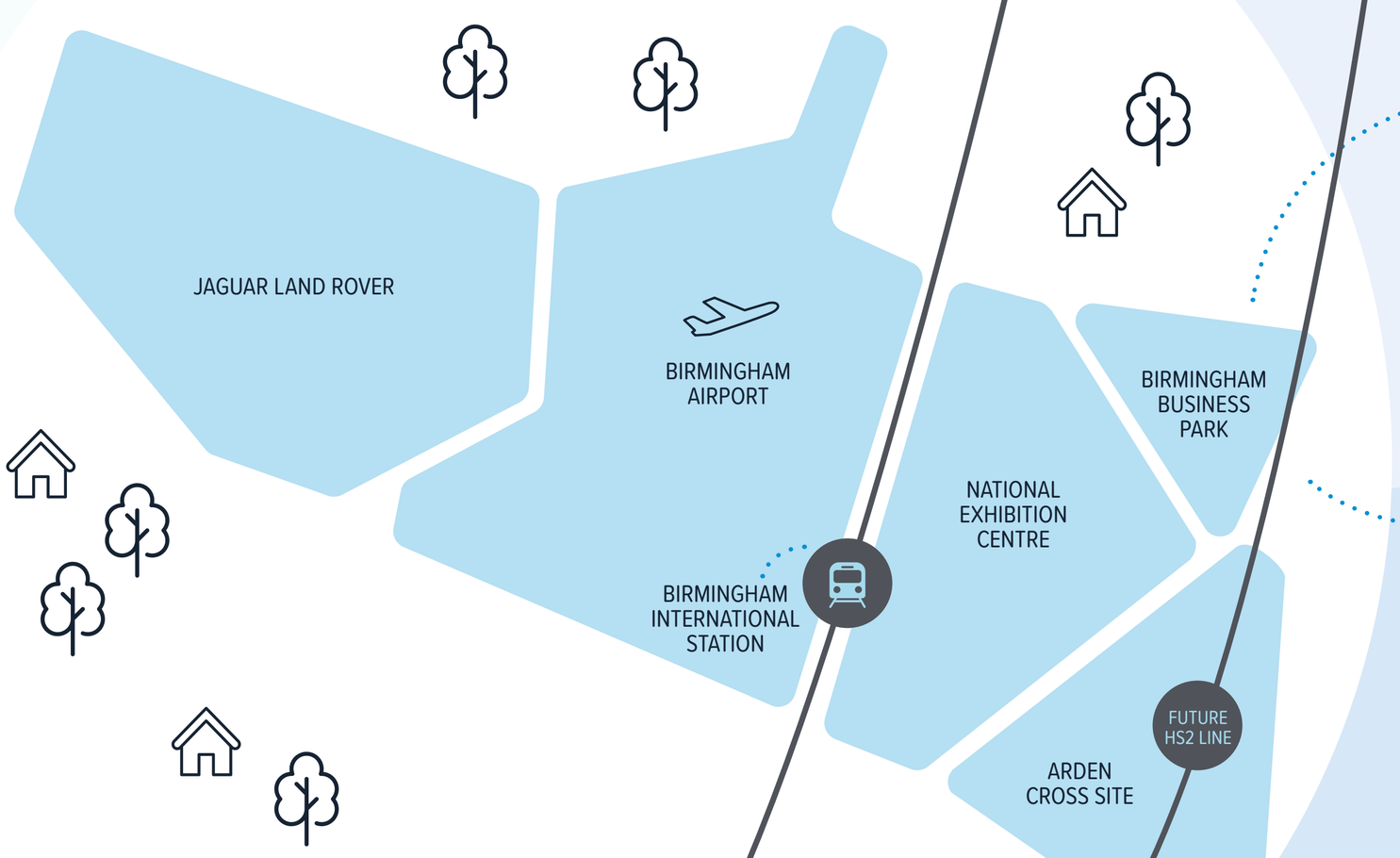
Jon Baty, Head of Inward Investment,
West Midlands Growth Company

“Proximity to Birmingham Airport was a key factor in our decision to relocate to Elmdon Trading Estate as it facilitates rapid access to our customers and allows us to host international clients in our new retail innovation centre.”

Martyn Osborne, Chief Executive Officer
EMEA and APAC, Flooid

“It is no coincidence that 68% of the property lettings in Solihull in 2025 were in proximity to Junction 6 of the M42 where the combination of the Airport, the NEC and rail access act as a powerful driver for location decisions.”

John Bryce, Director, KWB



Minebea intec

Moving to Birmingham Business Park almost 5 years ago our business has doubled in size. After extensive searches to relocate our business from Surrey, Birmingham Business Park was the only one that complemented our products and services in its professional image and facilities it provides to all business on the Park.

As an international company all our visitors are as equally impressed with the location as they are with our facilities. Offering an international airport, mainline train station (and soon to be HS2 interchange), countless hotels, motorways in all directions and the UK largest exhibition centre put us in the best location in the UK to provide services to our customers.

Colin Maher, Minebea Intec

SULZER

Sulzer Rotating Equipment Services relocated their 110 year electromechanical rotating machinery business from Birmingham city centre to a purpose-built, state of the art workshop and headquarters during Autumn 2020.

Since settling in to our new home, we have found Birmingham Business Park to be superbly positioned with great links to the motorway network, adjacent hotels, Birmingham Exhibition Centre, Birmingham International Airport and the prospect of the forthcoming HS2 Interchange, all of which making it an ideal location for our global business.

How does Birmingham Airport support investment?

Sector the Midlands is backing	How Birmingham Airport contributes
Advanced manufacturing / automotive	Supports rapid access for customers, engineers, investors and project teams. Strengthens the import and export supply chain.
Business and professional services	Makes client contact, deal-making and same-day travel easier across UK and European markets.
Visitor economy / events	Strengthens access to the NEC, ICC, hotels, sporting events and cultural venues.
Life sciences / health innovation	Improves access for specialists, commercial teams and research partnerships. Strengthens the import and export supply chain.
Logistics / cargo / trade	Supports time-sensitive goods, supply-chain resilience and international market reach.
Higher education / talent	Helps universities recruit, collaborate and host international visitors and students.





Case study: India

Success has been achieved in attracting significant inward investment from India, with its **fast growing economy and appetite for extending its global reach.**

The West Midlands has attracted 76 recorded Indian FDI investments worth more than £3.5 billion, supporting over 13,000 jobs.

India has also emerged as the West Midlands' leading source of FDI[1], overtaking the USA, while India itself remains one of the world's fastest-growing major economies, with projected real GDP growth of 6.5% in 2026.

There is a symbiotic relationship between the strong South Asian diaspora in the Midlands that has ensured both strong direct and indirect air connections to the region from Birmingham Airport. In turn, this makes the region very attractive for inward investors.

Most recently, £1.2 billion of Indian investment for the West Midlands was announced during the October 2025 UK-India trade mission for the West Midlands. This is expected to create nearly 600 jobs in the region as part of the wider UK package from 64 Indian investors in sectors such as Automotive & E-Mobility, Advanced Manufacturing, Digital Engineering & AI, Business Services.

TVS Motor / Norton Motorcycles
Solihull (2022)
A flagship £250 million investment over five years, creating 300 jobs.

Firstsource
Birmingham (2023)
Firstsource operate in business services, customer operations and financial-services support and scaled to 500 employees in its first year in Birmingham.

Tata Elxsi
Coventry (2024)
Tata Elxsi is expanding its Coventry design hub as a global centre of excellence for AI, cybersecurity and software-defined vehicles.

[1]Invest West Midlands

A gateway for visitors, trade and the Midlands story

Birmingham Airport is not only valuable because it helps Midlands firms go out into the world. It also matters because it **helps the world come into the Midlands**.

Visitors, students, investors, conference delegates, event audiences, family networks and trade-related movements all flow through the airport. That makes it part of the region's tourism economy, events offer and international profile.

This is especially important for a region whose growth story depends on being better known and more easily reached. BHX helps the Midlands present itself as accessible, connected and open.

It supports the visitor economy around Birmingham city centre, Solihull and the NEC. It helps major cultural, sporting and business events feel more international in reach. And it reinforces the wider regional story that the Midlands is a place to visit, study, invest in and do business.

In 2024, tourism contributed around £9.4 billion in GDP to the West Midlands economy and supported around 162,000 jobs. Whilst many of the visitors were from the UK, there were nearly 2 million foreign visitors.

In 2025, nearly 840,000 foreign visitors flew into the region through BHX (1.67 million air passengers), highlighting the important role that the airport plays in supporting the tourism sector.

Foreign tourist visits through BHX contributed £350 million to the economy of the broader West Midlands Region, supporting 12,800 jobs.

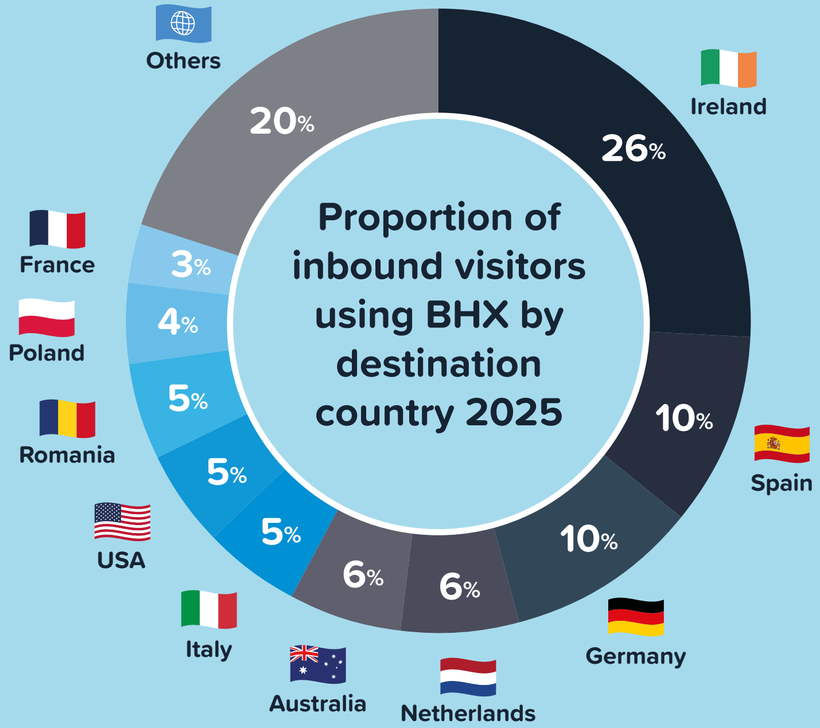




Cadbury World
one of the largest tourist attractions in Birmingham



Warwick Castle
Stratford
big destinations for international inbound tourists



Source: CAA Survey

Conferences and events

The NEC and Birmingham Airport (BHX) have a mutually beneficial relationship: the NEC is able to attract major public and trade events such as Crufts, the Spring Fair and Automechanika because of its strategic location and excellent national and international connectivity. This generates roughly £3bn in wider annual economic impact. In addition to this, BHX helps Birmingham win more international exhibitions and conferences by making the city easier to reach for exhibitors, speakers and delegates through around 140 direct destinations and more than 650 one-stop connections. This includes European links and hub access via Amsterdam, Doha, Dubai and Istanbul to long-haul markets in the Far East and the US, thereby strengthening the city's ability to attract events and convert them into exhibition- and conference-led visitor spend.

The NEC uses that connectivity to attract both international exhibitors and overseas attendees across major trade and consumer shows, with its key events drawing participants from a wide range of markets across Europe and beyond. It has recently entered into a partnership with Turkish Airlines to bring more international visitors to the NEC and ICC (International Convention Centre).

TURKISH AIRLINES

The ICC benefits from this connectivity in a similar way, using BHX's European access and long-haul one-stop links to attract international conferences, global associations, sector leaders and specialist delegates from a wide range of countries.



installer SHOW

Crufts

UK Construction Week

nec

Birmingham Airport

ICC Birmingham

WCRR

SPORT ACCORD

SET-JET 25
The World Screen Tourism Summit

£3bn

NEC enables roughly £3bn of wider annual economic impact

The value of air freight

Birmingham Airport's air freight operation is a **vital gateway for the West Midlands**, connecting one of the UK's most dynamic and productive regional economies with global markets.

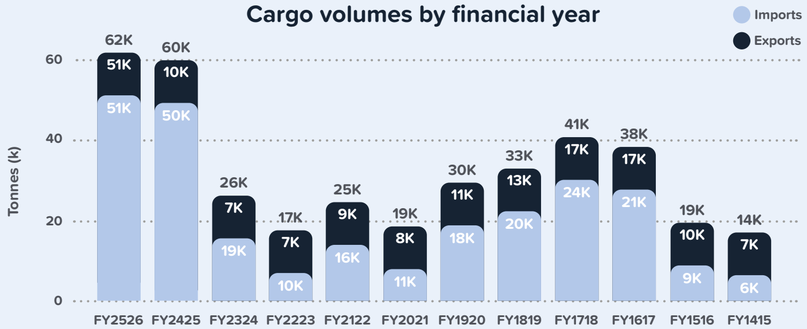
The airport's cargo function is well placed to support industry in the West Midlands in several ways:

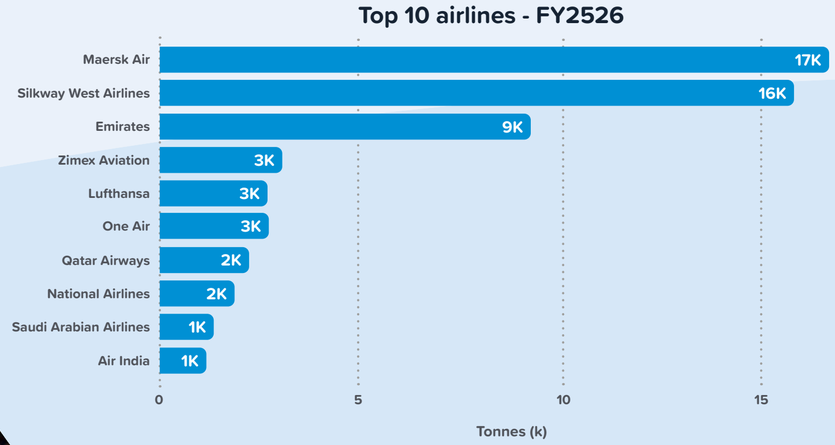
- Supporting the rapid movement of high-value, time-critical goods;
- Enables the rapid inbound and outbound movement of parts to support efficient supply chains and just in time stock processes;
- It is a strategic enabler of trade, resilience and growth, helping businesses move faster, reach further and compete more effectively on the international stage.
- Its presence will support inward investment for companies requiring international cargo links.

Its importance is particularly evident in sectors where speed, reliability and global connectivity are essential. BHX supports industries such as advanced manufacturing, automotive, aerospace, life sciences, electronics and e-commerce, all of which depend on efficient supply chains and dependable access to overseas customers and suppliers. It helps protect production schedules, enable just-in-time delivery, support exports and unlock new commercial opportunities.

In doing so, BHX strengthens the region's competitiveness, attracts investment and reinforces the West Midlands' position as a major centre of industry, innovation and international business.







Empowering people

Birmingham Airport is one of the region's largest employment sites, **supporting 9,300 jobs** directly on site with more than 150 companies.

When the full employment impact of the airport's operation is taken into account, the number of jobs created across the region is even more substantial, with nearly 20,000 jobs across the wider West Midlands region related to the operation of the airport.

The airport directly provides a multitude of job opportunities, each requiring different kinds of skills, including various customer services roles, baggage services, cabin and flight crew, engineering, fire services, air traffic control and a wide range of office based administration roles including finance, HR and marketing. The airport is committed to supporting local recruitment, with an active range of apprenticeship and training opportunities.

Most recently the Airport's air traffic controllers have taken on one of their apprentices into a full time role, having passed her exams. This is in addition to successful apprenticeships already in IT, Infrastructure and Operational Teams. This is a great example of how the Airport supports both apprenticeships and high quality new jobs.

BHX not only supports a wide range of employment opportunities but also provides well-paid roles that help strengthen local prosperity. The average salary of people working for Birmingham Airport company itself is £48,200.

In 2025, BHX launched a Care Leavers Work Experience Programme. This offered six care leavers work experience which supported particpants from disadvantaged backgrounds access to meaningful work experience, develop employability skills, and transition into sustainable employment.

The programme directly contributes to our ESG commitments, particularly within the social pillar, by promoting social mobility, inclusive employment, and improved life chances for under-represented groups.

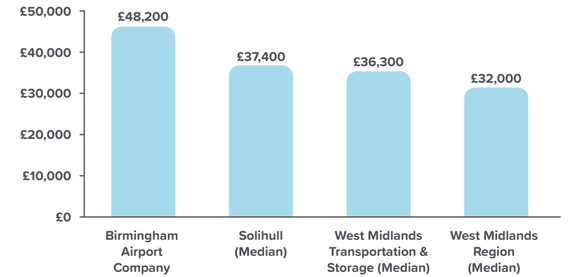
The programme has been notably effective, with 50% of placements securing permanent employment following completion. Considering the positive outcomes and alignment with our social value objectives, it is proposed that the programme is adopted on an annual basis each summer.



Economic footprint from airport operations

	No. of Jobs	Annual Gross Value Added (GVA) in £m
Direct employment on-site	9,300	£640
Jobs in the supply chain and supporting activity (Total Direct, Indirect & Induced):		
in Solihull	10,300	£710
across the WMCA	17,100	£1,130
across the wider West Midlands	19,900	£1,300

Comparative average salaries across the West Midlands



Sustainability - responsible growth and investment

Key to delivering the economic benefits seen at the Airport has been ensuring effective and targeted **responsible growth and investment**.

At Birmingham Airport this is achieved and supported through the development and delivery of our Sustainability Strategy. With our new five-year strategy, we think about sustainability using the Five Capitals model – considering the Financial Capital, Manufactured Capital, Human Capital, Social Capital and Natural Capital needed by the Airport in order to sustain itself successfully in business over the long-term. This is core to our corporate strategy and purpose.

Our Corporate Purpose is “Proud of every journey”. We want to create an Airport that our passengers, community and region can be proud of. This is the anchor for our corporate strategy and is supported by seven key pillars, or business imperatives: Growth, Customer, People, Efficiency, Safety & Security, Carbon and Neighbour. This Sustainability Strategy is central to delivering on the last two of these by protecting Natural Capital through responsible environmental stewardship, and strengthening Social Capital by being a trusted neighbour, engaging openly with our communities and contributing to our region’s economic success and wellbeings.

Strong partnerships and meaningful stakeholder engagement are at the heart of our sustainability strategy. We actively collaborate with local and national government bodies, as well as major regional businesses, to align our efforts with shared environmental and economic goals. Regionally, we contribute to initiatives such as the West Midlands Regional Energy Strategy and support the West Midlands Combined Authority’s ambition to reach Net Zero by 2041. These partnerships enable us to play a proactive role in shaping the region’s sustainable future.

Across the aviation industry, we engage extensively with organisations like Sustainable Aviation—a coalition of UK airlines, airports, aerospace manufacturers, and service providers—working together to develop long term strategies for a cleaner, quieter, and smarter sector. Locally, we view the Airport Consultative Committee (ACC) as a key strategic partner. Representing local authorities, resident groups, industry bodies, and airport users, the ACC plays a vital role in facilitating transparent, two-way communication between the Airport and its diverse stakeholder base. We recognise that openness and clarity are essential to maintaining trust and fostering positive relationships with our community.

We play an active role in improving the quality of life in those communities most affected by our operations, with a focus on neighbourhoods in east Birmingham and north Solihull, where need is greatest and where our investment can have the greatest impact. We do this through several initiatives, an Airport health forum, a community trust fund, whilst also focusing on employability, education, community volunteering and community service

Sustainability Highlights

The past five years saw an Airport-wide delivery on what was, at the time, **our most ambitious sustainability pledges to date.** Below are just a few of the highlights from this transformative period.

Climate Change Mitigation

Created a **net zero carbon plan**

Level 3 carbon accreditation

100% green tariff

12,000 panel solar array

30% scope 1 and 2 Co2 reduction since 2019 coupled with 100% green tariff

Climate Change Adaptation

Developed an airport specific climate risk register

Fourth climate change adaptation report published

Reduced reliance on the grid

Community Investment & Wellbeing

Since 2020, our community trust has awarded more than **£600,000** between **150 projects** and in excess of **£2.2 million** since it’s inception

Partnered with a new charity Birmingham Children’s Hospital

Waste, Supply Chain and Circular Economy

Green apple award for environmental best practice

First airport mobile waste segregation unit

Recycling increased from **48 to 80%**

Help local charities by donating unclaimed items

Zero waste to landfill

Water

10% Reduction in water consumption

Ongoing monitoring of waste water to **ensure discharges are fully compliant**

Reduced water pumped to foul sewer by **31% from 19/20**

Reducing de-icer usage by 29%

Biodiversity

Continuing work with local communities and local council to manage our **42 hectare biodiverse site** south of the airport

Supported **local tree and hedgerow planting** projects across Solihull Borough

Noise

99% of departures on track to minimise noise impacts

New night flying policy implemented limiting noise impact

Nightime noise limits reduced from **83dba to 81dba**

23% of next generation aircraft

New noise action plan with **46 actions** aimed at reducing the impact of noise on our local community

Local Air Quality

Six electric buses

Reduced engine taxiing

24 hour air quality monitoring to ensure continued compliance

Economic Development and Employment

Supported around **17,650** jobs within Solihull & around **33,520** jobs within the West Midlands Combined Authority area

Direct employment levels returned to pre-pandemic levels

Number of apprentices increased from **5** in **2025** to **10** in **2026/2027**

Contributed an estimated **2.1 billion** in **2023** in GVA (gross value added)

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