

# UK Borders and Immigration System

## UPT eVisa Engagement Event General Aviation

Future Borders & Immigration System (FBIS)  
August 2024



# Agenda

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# Universal Permission to Travel



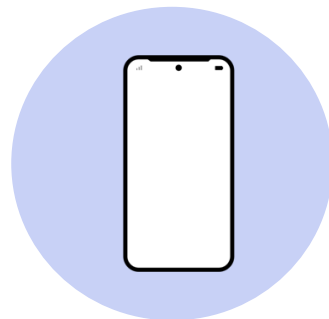
# Our digital vision

## Planning to come



Simpler guidance and transformed customer contact channels

## Applying to come



Streamlined and seamless digital application processes

Transformed sponsorship system

## Travelling to the UK



Permission to Travel including Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) scheme and eVisas

## Crossing the Border



Innovative technology increasing automation for everyone

## Living in the UK



Simple online services to demonstrate rights and entitlements  
Increased data sharing within government

# Universal Permission to Travel (UPT)

The UK Government is committed to strengthening the UK's borders by ensuring that everyone in the UK (except British and Irish citizens) seek permission in advance of travel – this is our Universal Permission to Travel (UPT) requirement.

To support our digital vision and the introduction of the UPT scheme, the Home Office is:

1

## Introducing Digital-only immigration products

- ✓ Moving from physical immigration documents to **digital-only immigration products (e.g. eVisas)**
- ✓ This means physical vignettes and physical immigration cards such as Biometric Residence Permit will no longer be issued.

2

## Introducing permission before you travel

- ✓ The UPT scheme will require everyone travelling to the UK to hold an immigration permission **before they travel** (except British and Irish Citizens)
- ✓ This means visa nationals will still require a visa or other immigration status and non-visa nationals will require a permission to travel in the form of an Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA).

3

## Introducing Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA)

- ✓ Introducing a new digital-only immigration product for non-visa nationals, Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA).

# 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 their permission to travel.

Advance Passenger Information will be submitted to the Home Office by the pilot, operator or agent, who in response will confirm whether the traveller has a permission to travel to the UK.



# eVisas



# 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?

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

# 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).



An eVisa is formed  
of 2 key parts



**Digital Status** – This is held against a customer's profile on our Person Centric Data Platform. Reflecting the most up to date and accurate activity e.g. a grant of leave, refusal of leave or submission of a new application.



**A UKVI Account** – a secure login, enabling the customer to prove their immigration status, their right to work and right to rent digitally.

# View and Prove your Immigration Status

**GOV.UK**

Home > Visas and immigration > What you need to do

## View and prove your immigration status: get a share code

You can use this service to:

- get a 'share code' to prove your status to others, for example employers
- update personal details in your UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) account, for example your passport number or email address
- check what rights you have in the UK, for example the right to work, rent or claim benefits

**Related content**

- [Apply to the EU Settlement Scheme \(settled and pre-settled status\)](#)
- [Prove your right to work to an employer](#)
- [Private renting](#)

**Who can use this service**

You can only use this service if you have a UKVI account.

You'll have a UK Visas and Immigration account if you've ever:

- applied to the EU Settlement Scheme
- used the 'UK Immigration: ID Check' app to prove your identity when applying for a visa
- created one when applying for a visa (you'll have received a UKVI account confirmation email)
- created one to get access to an eVisa (an online record of your immigration status)

**If you do not have a UKVI account**

There are different services to [prove your right to work](#) to an employer and to [prove your right to rent](#) to a landlord.

**View or prove your immigration status**

You'll need:

- details of the identity document you use to sign in to your UKVI account (your passport, national identity card, or biometric residence card or permit)
- your date of birth
- access to the mobile number or email address you use to sign in to your UKVI account - you'll be sent a code for signing in

**Start now >**

**Before you start**

Get help if you're having [problems signing in](#) to your UK Visas and Immigration account.

**Explore the topic**

- [Living in the UK, government and democracy](#)
- [EU, EEA and Swiss citizens](#)
- [What you need to do](#)

**0**

**Sign in**  
**What identity document did you use in your application?**

If you have updated your identity document since you applied, you must use the details of the updated document to sign in.

☒ Passport  
☐ National identity card  
☐ Biometric residence card or permit

**Continue**

**1**

**Sign in**  
**What is your passport number?**

Passport number  
For example, 120382978

**Continue**

If you do not have your passport number, contact [UK Visas and Immigration](#).

**2**

**Sign in**  
**What is your date of birth?**

You should enter this as shown on your passport, for example, 31 3 1980

Day Month Year

**Continue**

**3**

**Sign in**  
**Check your phone**

We've sent you a single-use, 6-digit security code by text message (SMS) to:

**07958\*\*\*\*\*853**

It may take a few minutes to arrive.

Security code

**Continue**

[Resend code](#)

**Problems signing in**

If you cannot access this phone number, [use your email instead](#).

If you no longer have access to your phone and email, [recover your account](#).

**4**

**Sign in**  
**How do you want to receive a security code?**

We will send a code to your phone or email address.

Applicant

☒ Phone (07958\*\*\*\*\*853)  
☐ Email (n\*\*\*\*\*d@deloitte.co.uk)

I helper

☐ Phone (07919\*\*\*\*\*161)  
☐ Email (s\*\*\*\*\*2@homeoffice.gov.uk)

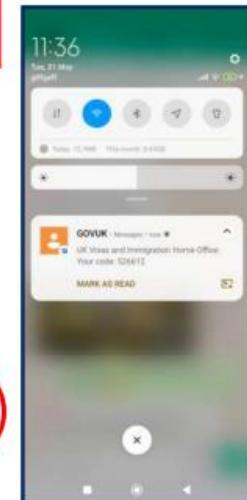
**Continue**

**Problems signing in**

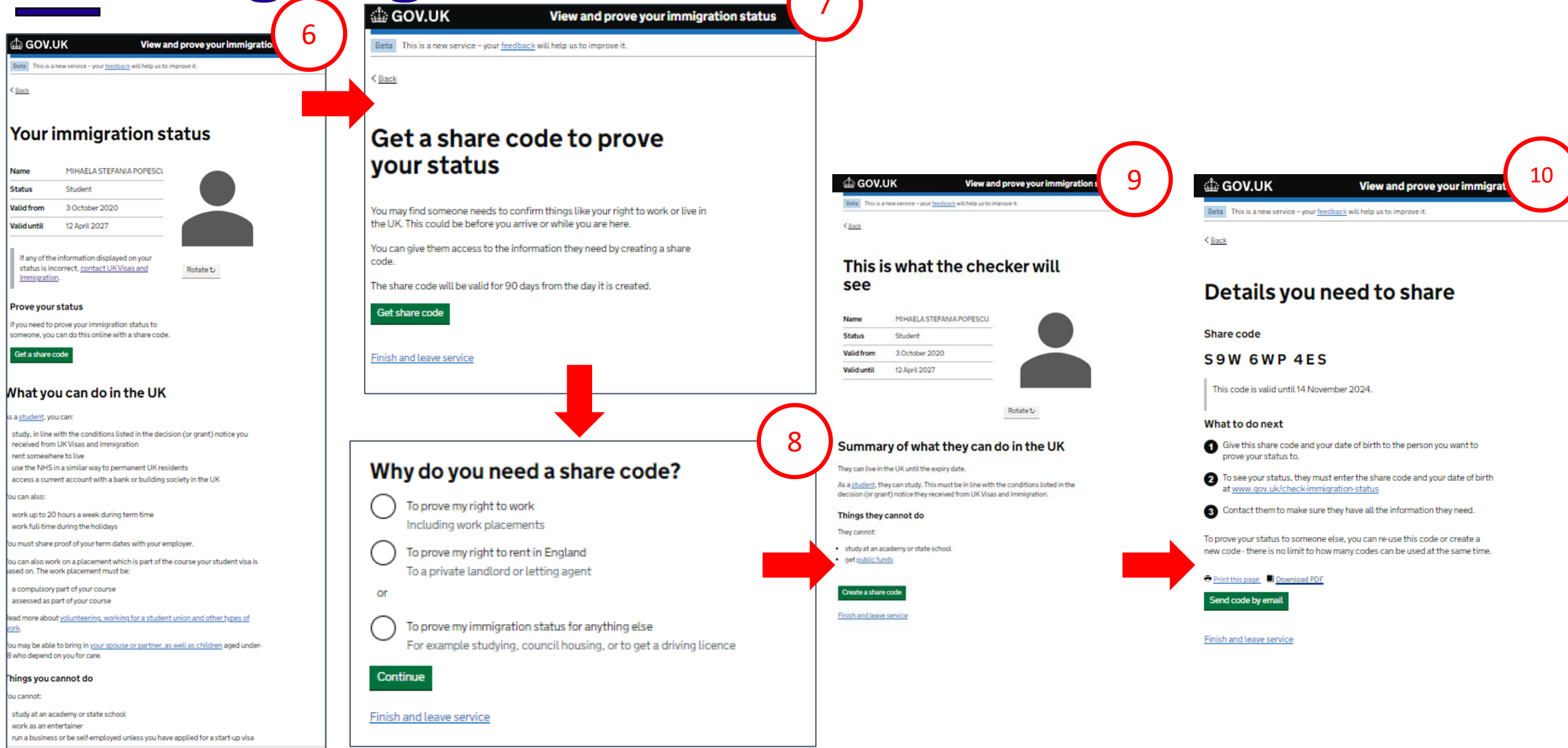
If you no longer have access to your phone and email, [recover your account](#).

**5**

Get a share code here:  
<https://www.gov.uk/view-prove-immigration-status>



# Sharing Digital Status





# Checking Digital Status

GOV.UK

Home

## Check someone's immigration status: use their share code

Use this service to check someone's immigration status if you have their 'share code'.

The share code will have been emailed to you or given to you by the person whose status you're checking. It expires after 90 days. You will also need the person's date of birth.

The service will show if they have the right to live in the UK, and any restrictions on their rights or access to benefits and services.

Use a different service to [check someone's right to work](#) or to [check their right to rent](#).

[Start now >](#)

Explore the topic

[What you need to do](#)

**Related content**

[Checking a job applicant's right to work](#)

Collection

[The schools sector and the EU](#)

[Local authority children's services and the EU](#)

[The higher education sector and the EU](#)

[Further education and apprenticeships and the EU](#)

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## What is the share code?

Share code  
For example, A12 345 67G

Continue

12

## What is their date of birth?

For example, 31 3 1980

Day Month Year

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Continue

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Check someone's immigration status, via their share code here: <https://www.gov.uk/check-immigration-status>

## GOV.UK Check someone's immigration

Beta This is a new service – your [feedback](#) will help us to improve it.

[Back](#)

### Who is doing this check?

Job title

Organisation or company name  
Include your local office or branch name

Continue

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## GOV.UK Check someone's immigration

Beta This is a new service – your [feedback](#) will help us to improve it.

[Back](#)

### Why are you checking this person's status?

To check they are eligible for:

- ☐ a driving licence
- ☐ a student loan
- ☐ education or training
- ☐ a global or european health insurance card
- ☐ personal finance (including bank and building society accounts, loans, credit cards and mortgages)
- ☐ homelessness assistance or council housing
- or
- ☐ another reason

Continue

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## GOV.UK Check someone's immigration

Beta This is a new service – your [feedback](#) will help us to improve it.

[Back](#)

### Their immigration status

Name MIHAELA STEFANIA POPESCU  
Status Student  
Valid from 3 October 2020  
Valid until 12 April 2027



Rotate 90

### Summary of what they can do in the UK

They can live in the UK until the expiry date.

As a [student](#), they can study. This must be in line with the conditions listed in the decision (or grant) notice they received from UK Visas and Immigration.

### Things they cannot do

They cannot:

- study at an academy or state school
- get [public funds](#)

### Details of check

Organisation or company	Job title of checker
BA	Pilot
Date of check	Reference number
16 August 2024	SC-G28WP43-LZ

Purpose of check  
air travel

[Print this page](#) [Download PDF](#)

[Check someone else's status](#) [Finish and leave service](#)

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# Transition to Digital Products and UPT Response Messages in 2024





# What does not change



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- Your existing obligations under Section 40 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- You will still need to make **face to face** and **document checks**, to ensure the person presenting the passport is the **rightful holder** and the document appears genuine.
- All visa nationals will still require visas
- Existing and valid/In date documentary evidence will continue to be accepted.
- To view the list of nationalities requiring entry clearance prior to travel to the UK please follow the link: [Visa national list - Guidance - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/visa-national-list)  
([www.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk))



# UPT Response Messages

To support the introduction of UPT, from January 2024 we have introduced UPT response messages to the sGAR web user service. The table below shows the two new responses that are shown to help pilots, operators and agents conduct their pre-departure checks and provide them with additional instruction on what action to take. More response messages will be added to the sGAR web user service in 2025.

Sector	Response Message	Action
Board	<div>VALID PERMISSION TO TRAVEL</div> <div></div>	<p>The Home Office can find a valid permission to travel for the person. Pilots, operators and agents are not required to check visas, but Passport or Travel Document checks still apply. They must check that the passport or travel document presented is genuine and valid, and that the person is the rightful holder.</p> <p>For more information on checking passports and travel documents click here <a href="#">Guidance on examining identity documents (publishing.service.gov.uk)</a></p>
Check	<div>AUTHORITY TO CARRY GRANTED</div> <div></div>	<p>Pilots, operators and agents are required to check visas for Visa Nationals. Passport or Travel Document checks apply for all passengers. They must check that the passport or travel document presented is genuine and valid, and that the person is the rightful holder.</p> <p>For more information on checking passports and travel documents click here <a href="#">Guidance on examining identity documents (publishing.service.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>Follow this link to check visa requirements <a href="#">Check if you need a UK visa - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a></p>

## Valid permission to travel

This response will be shown when a digital permission to travel has been found for the individual.

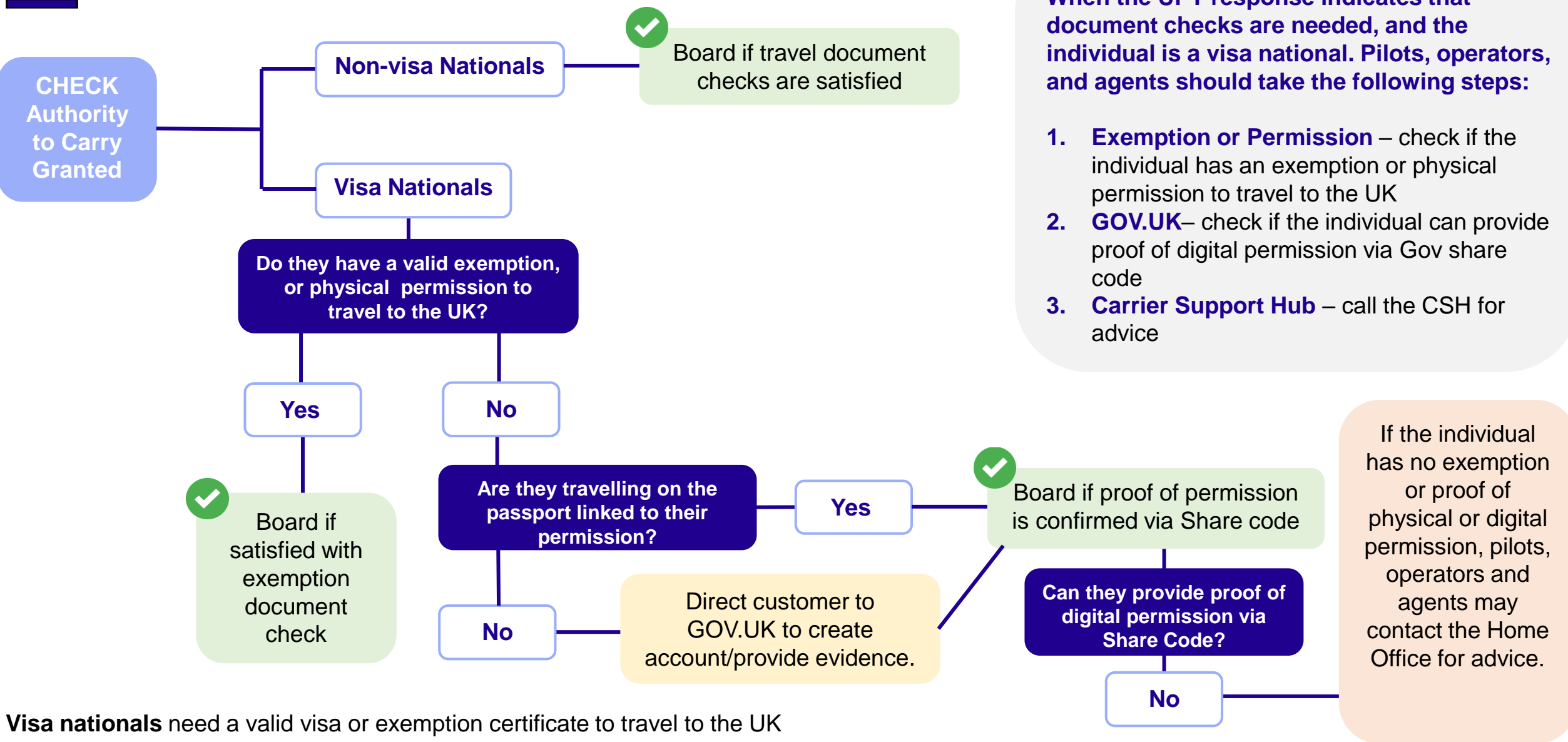
## Authority to carry granted

This response will be shown for all other individuals.

# Passenger Handling Scenarios (Visa Nationals)



# Document Check Process



When the UPT response indicates that document checks are needed, and the individual is a visa national. Pilots, operators, and agents should take the following steps:

1. **Exemption or Permission** – check if the individual has an exemption or physical permission to travel to the UK
2. **GOV.UK** – check if the individual can provide proof of digital permission via Gov share code
3. **Carrier Support Hub** – call the CSH for advice

**Visa nationals** need a valid visa or exemption certificate to travel to the UK

**All other nationalities (excluding Brits and Irish Nationals)** will eventually need an ETA and you will receive more information about the rollout plan in due course

# Passenger Handling Scenarios: Visa Nationals

Passenger Type	UPT Response and Actions	Permission Result
Visa National with a digital permission linked to the Passport/Travel document that they are travelling on	<b>BOARD- VALID PERMISSION TO TRAVEL</b>  This means that the Home Office has found a valid digital permission to travel for the individual which is linked to the passport/travel document that they are travelling on. Pilots, operators and agents are not required to check for physical visas, but Passport or Travel Document checks still apply.	<b>Passenger has permission to travel as confirmed by UPT response</b>
Visa National with a valid, genuine exemption or physical evidence such as the examples below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• biometric residence permits (BRPs)</li><li>• biometric residence cards (BRCs)</li><li>• ink stamps in passports, or other documents e.g. letters with stamps on</li><li>• vignette stickers in passports</li></ul>	<b>CHECK- AUTHORITY TO CARRY GRANTED</b>  This means that the Home Office has not found a digital permission to travel. Pilots, operators and agents must check the individual's physical exemption certificate or physical permission as well as Passport or Travel document checks..	<b>Passenger has permission to travel following physical document checks</b>

**Checks must be done on all passport/travel document that are presented to ensure they are genuine and valid, and that the person is the rightful holder.**



# Passenger Handling Scenarios: Visa Nationals

Passenger Type	UPT Response and Actions	Permission
Visa National whose digital permission is not linked to the Passport/Travel document that they are travelling on and has no exemption or physical evidence.	<p><b>CHECK- AUTHORITY TO CARRY GRANTED</b></p> <p>This means that the Home Office has not found a digital permission for the individual. If the individual does not have an exemption or physical proof of their permission, they should create a UKVI digital account (if they have not done so already) to access their eVisa, and this can be used to prove their rights to live or work in the UK. The individual should then be able to use the Share Code checking service via GOV.UK to provide evidence of their immigration status.</p> <p>If they are unable to provide evidence, pilots, operators, and agents may call the Carrier Support Hub for advice.</p>	<p><b>Valid Permission to Travel Confirmed via share code or by Carrier Support Hub</b></p>
Visa National has no exemption certificate or physical evidence of permission and is unable to provide evidence of a digital permission and the Carrier Support Hub advise that the Home Office has no record of their immigration status.	<p><b>CHECK- AUTHORITY TO CARRY GRANTED</b></p> <p>This means that the Home Office has not found a digital permission for the individual. If the individual does not have an exemption or physical proof of their permission. The individual should be able to use the Share Code checking service via GOV.UK to provide evidence of their immigration status.</p> <p>If they are unable to provide evidence via Share Code, pilots, operators, and agents may call the Carrier Support Hub for advice.</p> <p>Advice should be taken if no valid permission can be found.</p>	<p><b>If Permission to Travel has not been confirmed, pilots, operators and agents may be liable for Carriers Liability charge if they carry the individual</b></p>

**Checks must be done on all passport/travel document that are presented to ensure they are genuine and valid, and that the person is the rightful holder.**



# Help & Support

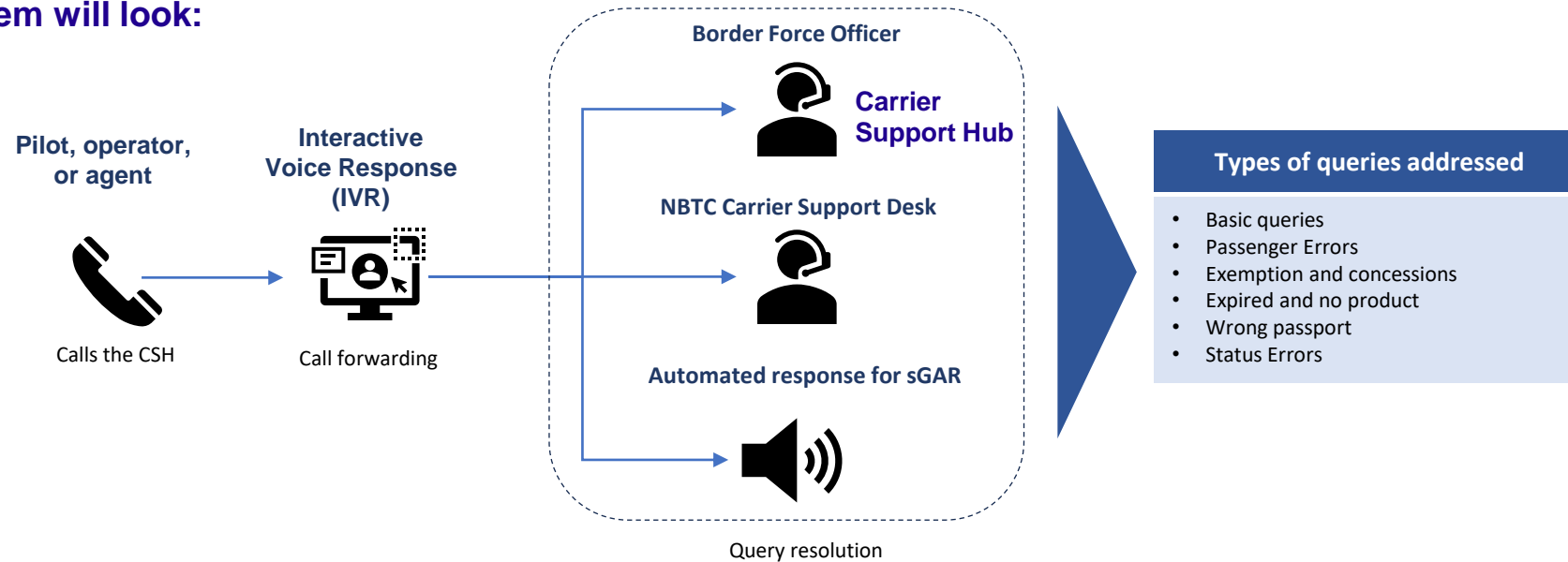


# Introduction of the new Carrier Support Hub

We are consolidating multiple contact points within the Home Office to a **single point of contact** called the Carrier Support Hub (CSH).

This will be a **24/7 support function** to answer all queries related to a passenger's permission to travel to the UK.

## How the new system will look:

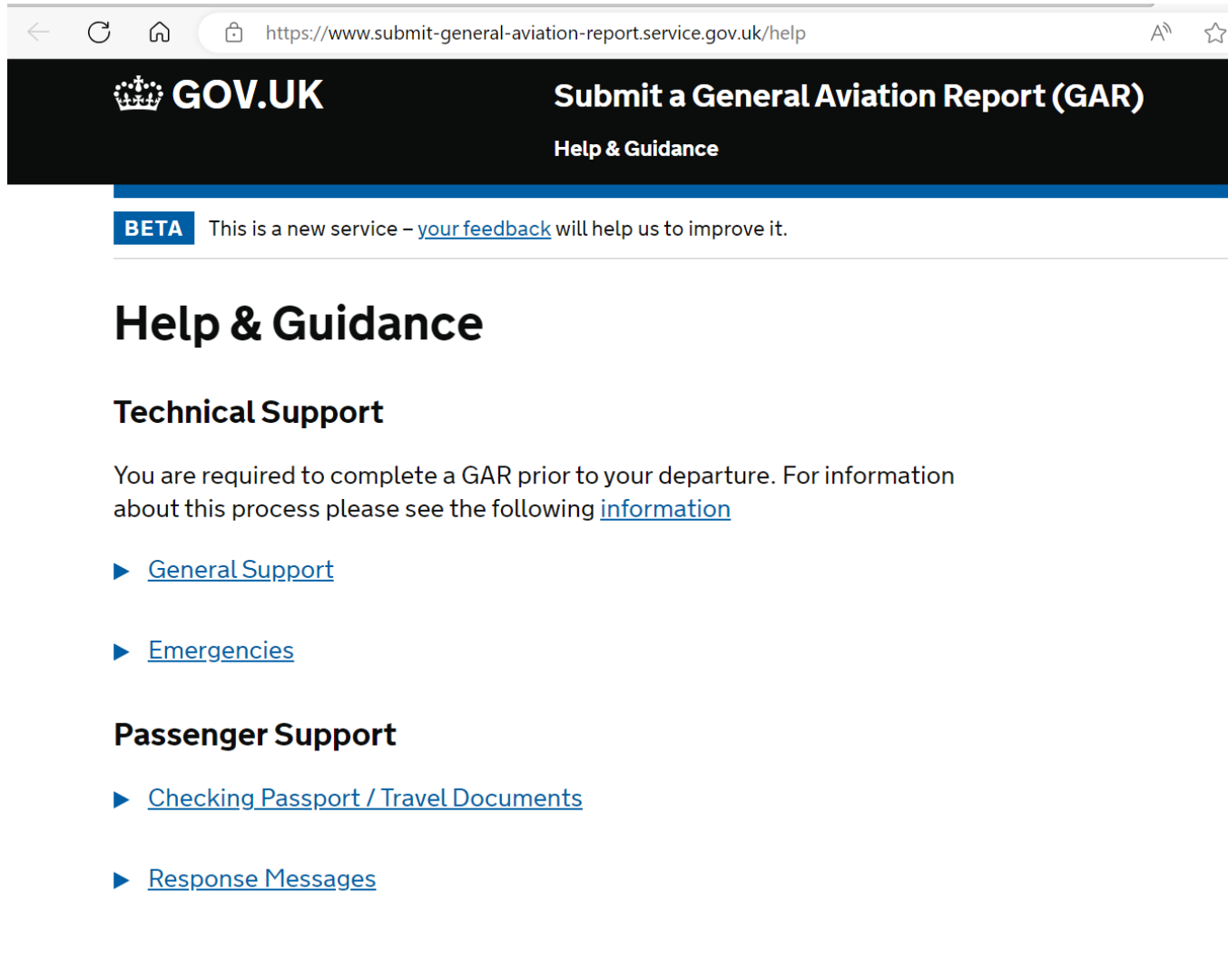


Carrier Support Hub Go Live

30<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Details will be shown on the sGAR Help Page

# Help & Guidance on sGAR



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.submit-general-aviation-report.service.gov.uk/help>. The page header features the GOV.UK logo and the title "Submit a General Aviation Report (GAR) Help & Guidance". A blue banner below the header states "BETA This is a new service – [your feedback](#) will help us to improve it." The main heading is "Help & Guidance". Under the "Technical Support" section, it states: "You are required to complete a GAR prior to your departure. For information about this process please see the following [information](#)". Below this are two links: "▶ [General Support](#)" and "▶ [Emergencies](#)". Under the "Passenger Support" section, there are two links: "▶ [Checking Passport / Travel Documents](#)" and "▶ [Response Messages](#)".

The Help & Guidance page on the sGAR user service includes a section for passenger related support. If a pilot, operator or agent requires general help or guidance regarding document/passport checks or response messages they may find the answer here.

For non-urgent, non-technical queries, pilots, operators or agents may submit their questions to the UPT mailbox:

[UPTqueries@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:UPTqueries@homeoffice.gov.uk)

Regional Border Force officers will continue to provide support regarding any urgent passenger related queries.

# Future Engagement



# Next Steps

[eVisa Partner Pack](#)  
[GOV.UK eVisa Page](#)

Updated sGAR Information Pack

Further announcements on ETA Rollout



# Thank You

If you have any further UPT questions or feedback, please reach out to:

**[uptqueries@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:uptqueries@homeoffice.gov.uk)**