

# First charter flight departed from Bangladesh to bring British travellers home

The British High Commissioner Robert Chatterton Dickson and Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen were present at the Shahjalal International Airport to observe the return process and speak with departing British travellers.

Earlier on 18 April, the British High Commission to Bangladesh announced four charter flights (21, 23, 25 and 26 April) from Bangladesh to bring home 850 British nationals to the United Kingdom.

For these return flights, priority is initially being given to vulnerable passengers, most at risk from the effects of coronavirus, including the elderly and those with underlying health conditions.

The flights are intended for British Nationals who are on holiday or are short-term visitors to Bangladesh. During this process, we will continue to prioritise vulnerable British nationals most at risk from the effects of coronavirus. We have undertaken checks to ensure those registering for these flights are eligible.

We have engaged heavily with the Government of Bangladesh, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh and airport officials, Bangladesh Police, local law enforcement and administration, to ensure British nationals safe return to the UK.

The UK Government committed up to £75 million to help thousands of British people return home. We have a responsibility to the UK taxpayer to deliver value for money so we can put on as many flights as possible. Anyone flying back to the United Kingdom on a UK Government chartered flight purchased their ticket. This approach is in line with other countries, who are charging similar fees for charter flights.

As of 21 April, The UK Government helped [number of British travellers] to returned home from [number of countries].

The British High Commissioner to Bangladesh Robert Chatterton Dickson said

“I am very pleased that we have today enabled 269 British visitors to Bangladesh, many of them vulnerable and with underlying health conditions, to return home to the UK on our first special charter flight, operated by British Airways. Working with Bangladesh Biman Airlines we were able to provide a connecting flight from Sylhet, where many of our nationals were staying. Our next flights will run from Dhaka on 23, 25 and 26 April, again with a connection from Sylhet.

“I would particularly like to thank the Government of Bangladesh, the Civil

Aviation Authority of Bangladesh, the management of Hazrat Shahjalal and Osmani International Airports and Biman Bangladesh Airlines for their exemplary support in ensuring the safe return of British visitors.

“The British High Commission in Dhaka remains fully operational and we will continue to provide full consular support to British nationals in Bangladesh.”

## Notes to editor

- The charter flights are for UK travellers who normally reside in the UK and their direct dependants. A number of seats will be reserved for those deemed vulnerable.
- Movement within Bangladesh is currently very restricted. The British High Commission contacted those who have confirmed seats on the flight with further details.
- Those who are eligible to fly, and when their seat is confirmed, were sent information on getting to airports and flight itineraries.
- The British High Commission continues to provide consular support to any British nationals who remain in Bangladesh. Support is available 24/7 by telephone for all routine enquiries and emergencies: +88 02 55668700.
- Also, remaining British Nationals can send your consular enquiries through the [contact form](#)

## Further information

British High Commission Dhaka  
United Nations Road  
Baridhara  
Dhaka – 1212  
Bangladesh

Email: [Dhaka.Press@fco.gov.uk](mailto:Dhaka.Press@fco.gov.uk)

Follow the British High commissioner to Bangladesh on Twitter: [@RCDicksonUK](#)

Follow the British High commission Bangladesh on Twitter and Facebook: [@UKinBangladesh](#) and [UK in Bangladesh](#)

---

# Carlisle City Council becomes latest local authority to join central Local Land Charges Register

From today (Tuesday 21 April) anyone requiring Local Land Charges (LLC1) searches in the local authority area of Carlisle City Council will need to get them from HM Land Registry rather than going directly to the council.

Karina Singh, Director of Transformation at HM Land Registry, said:

Everyone will now have instant, online access to local land charges search results in Carlisle, meaning it will be quicker and simpler to buy and sell property across the area. It is even more important at this current time that public services can be accessed digitally and instantly where possible and we are pleased to be able to contribute to that through the central Local Land Charges Register.

Councillor Gareth Ellis, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Finance, Governance and Resources at Carlisle City Council, said:

We are pleased to have worked with HM Land Registry to transform our paper-based LLC1 records – made up of tens of thousands of charges, including 51 charges affecting Hadrian's Wall alone – into a single, digital service. Once again, Carlisle is leading the way and striving to enhance the services we offer to the people we serve within our district and beyond. By updating, transforming and migrating our local land charges data to the central register, we have ensured that all those buying or selling, leasing or remortgaging property across Carlisle have instant access to our local land charges data. Our aim throughout has been, and continues to be, helping our residents and businesses to conduct their property transactions smoothly and efficiently.

Local land charges searches are normally required in the property-buying process. Most local land charges are restrictions or prohibitions on the use of the property such as planning permissions or listed buildings. The local land charges search will reveal whether a property is subject to a charge which then informs a buyer's decision to buy a property or parcel of land.

HM Land Registry is working in partnership with a number of local authorities in England to migrate their Local Land Charges data to a central, digital register as part of a phased approach. Once migrated, anyone will be able to get instant online search results using the [Search for Local Land Charges](#) service.

HM Land Registry's business customers can use their existing portal and Business Gateway channels or their usual search providers to access Local Land Charges data for those local authorities which have migrated.

Customers will need to continue to submit CON29 enquiries to the local authority.

For an overview of the service, watch [our short video](#).

For more information, read about the [Local Land Charges Programme](#).

---

## **Letter to front line staff providing essential banking services**

- Only go outside for food, health reasons or work (but only if you cannot work from home)
- If you go out, stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people at all times
- Wash your hands as soon as you get home

Do not meet others, even friends or family.

You can spread the virus even if you don't have symptoms.

---

## **AAIB Special Bulletin: Biocide treatment of aircraft fuel**

- Only go outside for food, health reasons or work (but only if you cannot work from home)
- If you go out, stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people at all times
- Wash your hands as soon as you get home

Do not meet others, even friends or family.

You can spread the virus even if you don't have symptoms.

---

# Vulnerable groups set to benefit from improved legal aid support

A purple rectangular graphic with white text that reads "Domestic violence injunctions during the coronavirus pandemic." The text is in a serif font and is arranged in four lines. The background is a solid purple color.

- immediate access to individual support for debt, discrimination and special educational needs cases to be restored
- greater access to legal aid for domestic abuse survivors
- government delivers on Legal Aid Support Action plan commitments

Changes made by the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) include expanding evidence requirements needed to qualify for legal aid for domestic abuse victims, to make this process easier, and reinstating immediate access to individual help for debt, discrimination and special educational needs (SEN) cases – initially via video link, then face to face when social distancing measures are no longer in place.

The Legal Aid Agency (LAA) will also be given the power to backdate payments for applications of legal help for inquests to the time at which the application was made, rather than when the application was granted.

Justice Minister, Alex Chalk MP said:

We are improving support for some of the most vulnerable people in the justice system – something that is particularly important during these challenging times.

This is the latest step in delivering our vision of a system that focuses on individuals and enables them to resolve legal problems quickly and easily.

MOJ is delivering on key government commitments made last year to broaden access to civil legal aid by reviewing legal aid means testing.

Alongside these measures, additional support is available to protect victims of domestic abuse during the coronavirus outbreak. The government recently published guidance on applying for domestic abuse injunctions remotely and we are boosting domestic abuse helplines and online support with an additional £2 million.

This statutory instrument has been laid in Parliament today (21 April 2020) and the changes will come into effect from 15 May 2020.

## Notes to editors

- This statutory instrument will make several important changes:
  - The removal of the mandatory requirement to contact the Civil Legal Aid Telephone Gateway for those seeking legal aid in discrimination, debt, and special educational needs cases, delivering on our Legal Support Action Plan commitment.
  - The removal of the mandatory requirement that an application for legal aid for Family Mediation must always attend the mediator's premises to make an application.
  - Changes to the evidence requirements that need to be satisfied in order to qualify for legal aid as a victim of domestic abuse. This is achieved by allowing the Independent domestic violence advisor (IDVA) and the independent sexual violence advisor (ISVA) to accept past support, and broaden the areas that evidence are accepted from England and Wales to the entire United Kingdom.
  - Legal aid firms are now able to carry out work at risk whilst waiting for an LAA decision. If approved they will receive payment from the date that they make the application on behalf of families, rather than the date the decision was made to award funding.
- MOJ announced these legislative changes in February 2019 in the Legal Support Action Plan, with a commitment to deliver them by spring 2020.
- [Guidance on how to apply for a domestic abuse injunction](#) is available on GOV.UK.

Published 21 April 2020

Last updated 21 April 2020 [+ show all updates](#)

1. 21 April 2020

First published.