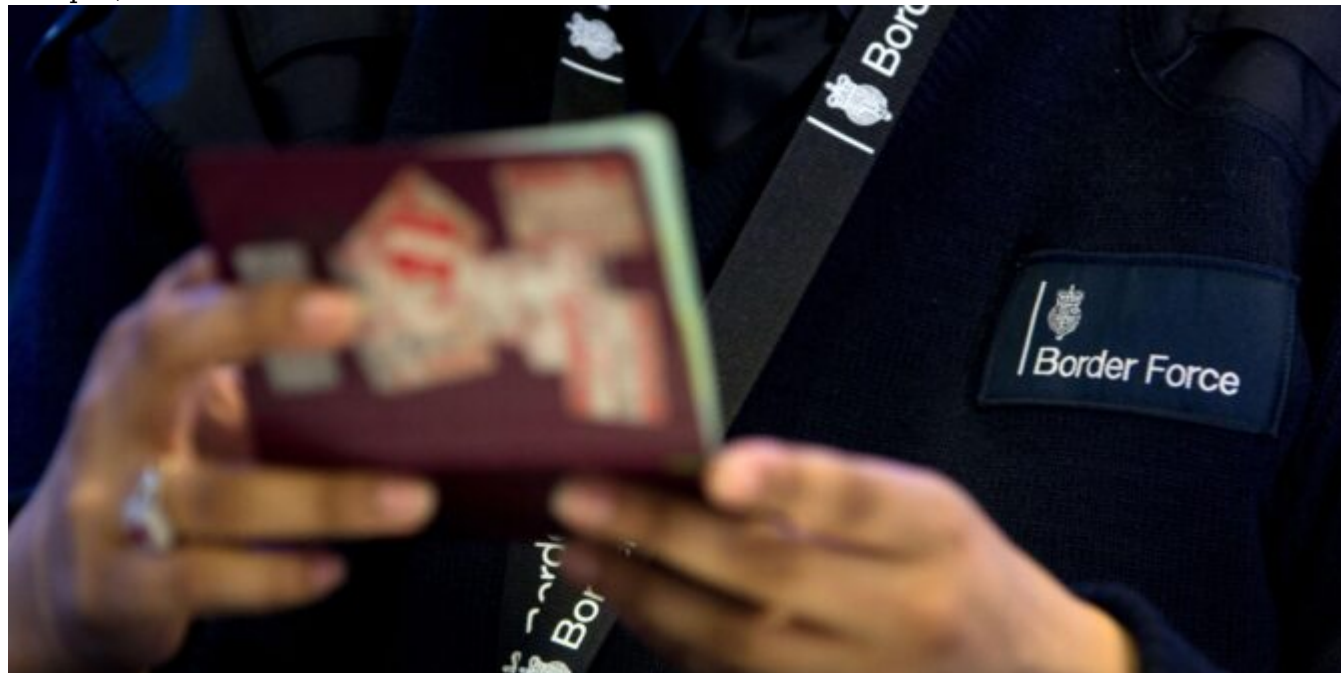# New Procedure for UK Flights

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Key Points

Effective April 6, there are some big changes to the UK's General Aviation Report (GAR) submission for international GA flights. The main changes:

- **The GAR form is now required for departures (not just arrivals).**

- **If you get it wrong, you can now get fined up to £10,000 (there were no fines before).**

- **You have to submit it via an online portal, or through a third-party app (no longer directly to UK Border Force via email).**

- **OPSGROUP member report: Once you file it, don't change it if you depart early/late – it's apparently UK Customs's responsibility to keep up to date with the ETA.**

These new rules apply to all international GA flights arriving/departing the UK (including within the Common Travel Area: Ireland, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands).

How to submit the GAR

You need to submit info online about the flight and crew/pax, no earlier than 48 hours and no later than 2 hours prior to the expected time of arrival/departure. There are 3 ways to do this:

1. The government's free-to-use online portal.
Alternatively, you can download this GAR template (Excel doc), complete it electronically and upload it to the portal.

2. Approved third-party applications
– Rocket Route
– OnlineGAR

3. Direct connections
– FB01
– Streamlane
– Mobile-Edge

More info on the UK government site here.

After you submit the GAR, **you should get a response telling you whether that crew/pax is allowed to travel.** It will be one of the following (thanks to our friends at FlyingInIreland for this table):

Response Message	Action
Valid permission to travel	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. For more information on checking passports and travel documents click here Guidance on examining identity documents (publishing.service.gov.uk)
Authority to carry granted	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. For more information on checking passports and travel documents click here Guidance on examining identity documents (publishing.service.gov.uk) Follow this link to check visa requirements Check if you need a UK visa – GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Authority to carry refused. DO NOT BOARD.	This response message will not be displayed on the screen. Pilots, operators and agents will be instructed not to board an individual (NO BOARD) via a call and email when Authority to Carry (ATC) has been refused.

Given the new fines now in place for getting it wrong, you may find that **your local handling agent is no longer able/willing to submit the GAR for you.**

So if you're not already using a third-party application to submit the GAR for you, it looks like the best option is to sign up for an online account and file it yourself direct!

Submit a General Aviation Report (GAR)

Use this service to:

- Submit a GAR
- View or cancel a GAR and edit draft GARs
- Add, remove or manage people on your flight

Start now >

OPSGROUP member report

We had a flight to UK that departed 45 mins early, so we thought it wise to update the GAR to correct ETA. This resulted in a UK Customs warning for 'submitting' a GAR once flight airborne (8hr leg). We've been told that we should not have updated the ETA and it is UK Customs' responsibility to keep up to date with the ETA.