

Queen's Birthday Honours

News story

The Scottish Secretary congratulates to all those recognised by the Queen in her Birthday Honours list



Secretary of State for Scotland Alister Jack said:

In the year of Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, my whole-hearted congratulations go to all those across Scotland who have been recognised for their extraordinary public service. They truly exemplify the dedication, ambition and generosity of spirit that has defined the Queen's 70-year reign.

We were all gripped by the Winter Olympics and Paralympics in Beijing, as our curlers swept to gold and we topped the podium in Alpine skiing. Eve Muirhead is awarded an OBE, while the rest of the team get MBEs, along with Alpine skier Neil Simpson and his brother and guide Andrew.

One of Scottish literature's most recognisable names, Ian Rankin's knighthood is richly deserved; his Inspector Rebus novels have kept us entertained and in suspense for decades.

It's great to see recognition of Scotland's fantastic food and drink. James Walker of Walker's Shortbread is being knighted, and OBEs are given to Ian and Michael Urquhart from the family-run Gordon and MacPhail whisky company.

Honours also go to those whose dedication and resilience helped make Glasgow's hosting of COP26 safe and successful, including a well-deserved knighthood for Police Scotland's Chief Constable Iain Livingstone.

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Queen's Birthday Honour for senior Dstl scientist

Press release

An internationally-recognised data expert from Dstl has been appointed by The Queen as an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE).



Warren Marks is awarded the honour in recognition of his service to the defence and security of the UK, with his pioneering novel applied data science capabilities helping to increase operational effectiveness.

His work saw him spend significant amounts of time supporting defence, both in the UK and abroad. Warren's applied data and digital expertise on a broad range of data types and sources has helped analysts and senior defence leaders make timely decisions in a wide variety of situations. During his 24 year career he has worked with many of the front line commands in the Ministry of Defence (MOD) as well as directly supporting several Government organisations.

Applied data science forms a vital component of modern warfighting. Analysing multiple data sources to create information advantage provides commanders with critical information to act at the right time, from mission planning to operations, winning the battle and keeping UK forces from harm.

Warren said:

I'm absolutely proud and humbled to receive this award.

The role of UK science and engineering has never been more relevant. Dstl's impartiality, integrity, honesty and objectivity are vital in the application of data science to MOD.

There have been so many exciting projects, dedicated colleagues, passionate customers and challenging science and engineering

problems that I have had the privilege of working on and with over 24 years.

I'm fortunate to work in an organisation where we listen to specialists, take appropriate risk and have the autonomy to act in the best interests of the customer community to try to really make a difference.

Dr Paul Hollinshead, the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory's Chief Executive, said:

I am proud that Warren's skills are recognised in his ability to guide and influence capability across Government through his work within the MOD in a wide range of data engineering, science and analysis roles supporting national security and a number of key programmes.

Warren should be justly proud that his professionalism and passion has made, and continues to make, an immense impact on our nation's defence and security. I am delighted that Warren has been considered worthy of this state recognition and honour.

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[UK keynote address to Canadian Defence Exhibition](#)

- UK's Jeremy Quin first foreign Defence Minister to speak at Canada's Defence Exhibition
- Focus on UK-Canadian science and technology collaboration
- HMS Protector to join Canada's Arctic deployment for High North security exercise

Further support to Ukraine, the security of the High North, and science and technology collaboration were the focus of discussions as UK Defence Minister Jeremy Quin delivered a keynote speech to Canada's annual defence exhibition, CANSEC.

Part of a three-day engagement in Ottawa, the UK's Defence Procurement Minister was the first foreign Defence Minister to be invited to speak at the event where he engaged with key Defence organisations present, including Airbus, Babcock, BAE Systems, Leonardo, Marshalls, QinetiQ and Rolls Royce, and hosting a wider industry roundtable.

The keynote speech followed meetings with his Canadian counterparts, Minister for Innovation, Science & Economic Development, Francois Philippe Champagne, Minister for Public Services and Procurement Canada, Filomena Tassi, and Minister for National Defence, Anita Anand.

As part of the UK's commitment to the region, British vessel HMS Protector will shortly visit ports on the St Lawrence River before being the first ever Royal Navy ship to join Operation NANOOK, Canada's annual High North deployment. The focus will be on improving the response to security issues in such a challenging environment, as well as further collaborative work around science, technology and climate change.

UK Defence Procurement Minister, Jeremy Quin said:

Whether in the North Atlantic, the Indo-Pacific or the High North we need to work together to defend our values.

Canada and the United Kingdom enjoy a steadfast bond, and it is through such alliances that we can protect ourselves against those who wish to undermine the international rules-based order.

It has been a privilege to meet my Canadian counterparts and speak to industry partners. I am left in little doubt that as two key NATO allies, we have the shared capability, the shared industry and the shared talent to address current and future threats.

Through bilateral meetings, Minister Quin praised Canada for their provision of two C130 transport planes to support aid to Ukraine from European partners, as well as supplying Howitzers and thousands of rounds of ammunition. He welcomed Canada's recent commitment to provide \$500 million to further bolster Ukrainian's defensive and humanitarian efforts.

Being the only two countries that are simultaneously members of the UN, Commonwealth, NATO, FIVE EYES, G7 and G20, the UK and Canada boast a strong Defence relationship. This was exemplified by Canada's HMCS Winnipeg's involvement in joint exercises in the Pacific with the UK's Carrier Strike Group's deployment last year.

[Transport Secretary meets with aviation industry following disruption at UK airports](#)

Today (1 June 2022) the Transport Secretary and Aviation Minister led a

productive meeting with senior leaders from the aviation industry, including airports, airlines and ground handling companies.

The meeting was urgently called to discuss exceptional disruption seen across UK airports, after thousands of flights were cancelled due to staff shortages at airports and airlines.

Secretary of State for Transport Grant Shapps began the meeting by reiterating his concern at the scenes seen at airports this week, while noting that not all operators have been affected by the issues in the same way, and he noted the pressures which the airlines and operators are working under.

Keen to make sure consumers do not lose out, he emphasised the steps the government is taking to boost consumer rights, including recently consulting on using our Brexit freedoms to enhance consumer protections, and committing to publish an aviation passenger charter to ensure consumers can access information about their rights all in one place.

He emphasised his concerns that airline passengers are being unfairly sold tickets for holidays they cannot go on, and will continue to discuss with the sector options for introducing automatic refunds for passengers.

He highlighted that new protections include enhancing the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA's) powers to enforce aviation consumer protection laws, and that it has consulted on making it mandatory for airlines operating in the UK to be a member of an alternative dispute resolution scheme, which is available to consumers if they feel their consumer rights have been breached by an airline and the airline has not resolved the issue.

He also reiterated that airline bosses should have been preparing for a surge in passenger demand following 2 years of travel closures.

He restated that along with the close engagement between government and the sector, and changing to law to alleviate pressures on background checks for new recruits, our longstanding support for the sector is unwavering.

The government and aviation industry will form a working group ahead of the summer holidays to work through issues of shared concern together.

Both the Transport Secretary and the Aviation Minister, Robert Courts, stressed that the government remains committed to supporting the sector following the pandemic and this follows the £8 billion package of support that has been made available to the industry during the pandemic.

The Transport Secretary and Aviation Minister also reiterated the importance of creating a competitive, attractive market for workers and called on the sector's leadership to offer better packages and build a resilient workforce to meet demand.

Speaking after his meeting with the aviation leadership, Transport Secretary Grant Shapps said:

Today's meeting was a chance to hear from airports and airlines first-hand what went wrong this week. The scenes we're witnessing at airports are heart-breaking, with holidaymakers missing out on their first trips abroad after the pandemic.

We're grateful to those airlines and operators who have continued to deliver good services despite the current pressures and we recognise that not all operators have been affected in the same way.

I also understand the resourcing strains on the aviation sector but it does not excuse poor planning and overbooking flights that they cannot service. The companies who have seen the most disruption need to learn from those who ran services smoothly.

We will continue to monitor the situation closely to make sure consumers don't lose out from any further disruption.

Both myself and the Aviation Minister have made the changes needed to allow the sector to prepare for summer, but now we need industry to do their bit.

We have been crystal clear – run services properly and according to schedule or provide swift, appropriate compensation. We do not want to see a repeat of this over the summer – the first post-COVID-19 summer season – and will be meeting again in the coming weeks to understand the progress that is being made.

Chief Executive of Airlines UK Tim Alderslade said:

We want to work collaboratively with ministers to resolve these issues as quickly as possible, in good time for the summer peak and it was good to discuss options with the Transport Secretary during what was a productive meeting.

We ultimately have to work together to solve this. Aviation is a complex eco-system with lots of moving parts and we can't operate in isolation.

This isn't an airline issue or an airport issue or a government issue. We're in this together and we look forward to exploring options with ministers to move the sector forwards as we approach the summer.

Chief Executive of the Airport Operators Association Karen Dee said:

Our meeting today was a good opportunity to discuss the challenges currently facing airports following the devastating impact of the pandemic but also to set out how, working closely with government,

industry is putting its full effort behind getting passengers away smoothly this weekend and preparing for the summer.

Aviation is vital for the UK's economic success and it's in all of our interests to ensure the sector recovers and plays its full role

Today's agenda for the meeting covered:

- the issues seen at airports this week and why this happened
- how consumers will be better and faster protected
- what measures will be taken now by the sector to prevent disruption over summer

In attendance were:

- Airlines UK
- Airport Operators Association(AOA)
- Birmingham Airport
- Bristol Airport
- British Airways
- Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)
- DHL Ground Handling
- easyJet
- Gatwick Airport
- Jet2
- London City Airport
- LoganAir
- Luton Airport
- Newcastle Airport
- Swissport
- TUI Airways
- Virgin Atlantic Airways
- International Air Transportation Association (IATA)

[Chevening alumni present public policy and behavioural economics manual in Honduras](#)

World news story

Latin Americans who studied their master's degree in the United Kingdom with the Chevening scholarship released a study.



The students developed the “ [Behavioural Economics Handbook: Applying Behavioural Economics to Public Policy](#) (ODT, 12.2 MB) “ through the Chevening Alumni Project Fund (CAPF). It aims to helping public entities and NGOs in Honduras.

The manual provides information on what behavioural economics are, how it can be used in public policy, and its benefits. It includes a guide to developing interventions using the EAST Framework developed by the Behavioural Insights Team in England.

It also addresses ways to measure the results of an intervention to change behaviour and cases of the application of this knowledge to achieve environmentally friendly behaviours. The manual can be used by public policy makers, government agencies, international organizations, the private sector, as well as by students.

The alumni participating in this initiative were Sofía Maradiaga, from Honduras, studied a Master’s in Behavioural Economics at the University of Warwick; Santiago García, from Venezuela, and Santiago Borda from Colombia. Isabel Bazán, Ph.D candidate in Economics at Virginia Tech also contributed.

Each one of them was in charge of writing one of the chapters of the manual and contributed from their personal and professional experience with the development of the structure and concept of the project.

We are pleased to know that alumni such as Sofía, Santiago García and Santiago Borda continue to develop tools that contribute to the development of Honduras and Latin America.

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