

The Chief of the Air Staff's Global Air & Space Chiefs' Conference 2026
Dominating the Skies: Agile, Integrated and Ready

15-16 July 2026

DAY ONE

0900	Conference registration opens	
0930-1030	Coffee & Networking	
1030-1040	Welcome & Conference Introductions	Susannah Streeter Broadcaster and Analyst Air Marshal (Ret'd) Greg Bagwell President, The Air & Space Power Association Air Chief Marshal Sir Harv Smyth Chief of the Air Staff, Royal Air Force
1045-1200	Session 1. Nuclear – Back to the Future? The decision to procure the F-35A provides an opportunity for the RAF to return to the nuclear role. After a three-decade sabbatical, the RAF must refresh its 'nuclear IQ.' This first session sees senior defence officials and an international chief share insights on airborne nuclear capability. The panel also includes an Indo-Pacific expert and a leading industry figure who will discuss re-introducing a critical capability to the UK's and NATO's inventory.	Air Vice-Marshal Jim Beck Director Capability & Programmes, Royal Air Force Lieutenant General Stéphane Virem Commander, Strategic Air Forces, French Air & Space Force Dr Brendan Mulvaney Director, China Aerospace Studies Institute, National Defense University Chauncey McIntosh Vice President, F-35 Programme Lockheed Martin
1200-1300	Lunch & Networking	
1300-1410	Session 2. Operationalising the Space Domain Following the exploration of air-delivered nuclear capability, we shift focus to the rapidly evolving space domain and the importance of space domain awareness for allied security. Following a keynote address by an international space commander, a panel of space experts and practitioners will examine how we achieve optimum space domain awareness and what can be done to counter the threats to this key domain.	Keynote Address General B. Chance Saltzman Chief of Space Operations, United States Space Force Panel Air Vice-Marshal Jamie Thompson Commander, UK Space Command Major General Greg Novak Commander, Space Command Australia Dr Julia Balm Co-Director of Freeman Air & Space Institute, King's College London Dr Michael O'Callaghan Head of Geospatial UK and Future Programmes, Airbus Defence & Space

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1420-1530	Session 3. Putting the Integrated into IAMD With NATO First and Integrated Air and Missile Defence (IAMD) both central tenets of the UK's Strategic Defence Review, this third session brings both elements together. A senior RAF leader will chair a panel to look at the challenges and opportunities of developing and delivering IAMD, with valuable input from an international air chief, RAND Europe, and industry.	Air Vice-Marshal Andy Martin Director Integrated Air & Missile Defence, Royal Air Force Lieutenant-General J. R. Speiser-Blanchet Commander, Royal Canadian Air Force James Black Deputy Director Defence and Security, RAND Domenico Vigilante Head of Technology & Innovation Department, Leonardo Electronic Division, Land&Sea Business Area
1530-1600	Afternoon Tea & Networking	
1600-1715	Session 4: Delivering the Integrated Force Having explored integration in IAMD, this session will go on to examine how this approach extends across all the UK armed forces. This panel will address for the first time how each of the UK's armed forces and each service can develop and deliver together a fully integrated approach to operations.	Air Chief Marshal Sir Harv Smyth Chief of the Air Staff, Royal Air Force General Sir Gwyn Jenkins First Sea Lord and Chief of Naval Staff, Royal Navy General Sir Roly Walker Chief of the General Staff, British Army General Sir Rob Magowan Commander, Cyber & Specialist Operations Command
1715-1730	Conference Day One Reflections	Air Marshal (Ret'd) Greg Bagwell President, The Air & Space Power Association
1730-2000	VIP Drinks Reception in the Riverside Room & Johnson Roof Terrace	

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DAY TWO

0800	Venue registration open	
0800-0845	Coffee & Networking	
0845-0900	Welcome & Conference Day Two Introductions	Susannah Streeter Broadcaster and Analyst Air Marshal (Ret'd) Greg Bagwell President, The Air & Space Power Association
0900-0935	Keynote and Q&A	Luke Pollard MP Minister of State for Defence Readiness and Industry
0940-1040	Session 5: Contemporary Air & Space Power Lessons This final panel will debate the challenges and opportunities of innovating for multi-domain effect. A senior RAF official will lead the session supported by a senior NATO commander, a leading academic from RUSI and a senior industry figure.	Air Marshal Al Marshall Air & Space Commander, Royal Air Force Air Chief Marshal Sir Johnny Stringer Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe (DSACEUR), NATO Dr Jack Watling Senior Research Fellow, Applied Military Sciences, RUSI Sir Stuart Atha Senior NATO Advisor, BAE Systems Tom Jones Corporate VP and President, Northrop Grumman Aeronautics Systems sector
1045 - 1115	Coffee & Networking	
1115 -1220	Keynote Session and Q&A	General Kenneth S. Wilsbach Chief of Staff of the Air Force, United States Air Force Air Chief Marshal Sir Harv Smyth Chief of the Air Staff, Royal Air Force
1220-1230	Conference Day Two Reflections & Closing Remarks	Air Chief Marshal Sir Harv Smyth Chief of the Air Staff, Royal Air Force Air Marshal (Ret'd) Greg Bagwell President, The Air & Space Power Association
1230-1400	Lunch & Networking	