UK in 2024

General
- **Contact for questions from fandom (*including email address*):**

info@ukin2024.com

- **What dates are you bidding for?**

August 2024

- **What is your proposed convention host city? Is your convention site in a city center location or a suburb? If a suburb, what are the transport options into the city center? How far is the site from the city center?**

We have three cities in the running at present. These are Glasgow, Scotland; London, England, and Liverpool, England. However, during the past year we have presented several panels about the Bid and discussed these venues, as well as receiving preliminary reports from both London and Glasgow. UK and International fans have overwhelmingly voted for Glasgow as a location. However, this is by no means decided, especially as the ExCEL Centre has seen some development recently that makes us believe we should revisit it with our Working Party, which we intend to do in the new year. Details of all three venues are below.

Glasgow SEC (note new name - a whole letter removed!)
(Worldcons 95 and 05 were held here).
The SEC have updated their 3000 seat auditorium with better acoustics and seating. There are now six hotels on site with 800 rooms. The new adjoining arena has further conference rooms and breakout spaces which could be used for parties / launches.
Glasgow SEC has strong relations with previous Worldcons (1995, 2005) and a good relationship with the City, SEC and fans such as Mark Meenan and Vince Docherty exists. Mark Meenan has approached the SEC and they have been extremely interested in the possibility of hosting a Worldcon.
The city has undergone considered urban regeneration in recent years and the council are keen to promote this. And the food is great!

The ExCel Centre, London
The site of Loncon 3, the 2014 Worldcon.
There is an onsite hotel complex with multiple hotels of differing price ranges, and good transport links to central London.
London City Airport runs parallel to the ExCel Centre, and there is also rapid access to London Heathrow, London Gatwick and London Stansted Airports.
The ExCel has recently opened a new suite of rooms which might be suitable for additional programming or parties. These rooms are attached to the same area as the previous Worldcon was hosted in.

Liverpool ACC
The ACC have an arena / auditorium which seats 11 000 but can be scaled down to purpose. Since it was considered for the 2014 bid they have added a new Exhibition Centre with 8,000m2 of hall space and extra rooms.
Liverpool also has private boxes which would be good for parties and launches.

There is a new walk-in hotel (Pullman Liverpool) which also has 28 accessible rooms of differing types (ie showers / walk in baths, hard / carpet flooring).
There are 3 hotels on site, and 1 further hotel across the road (150m). The area is currently under development.

- **Who is your Chair? Who is on your committee? What experience do they have in general? In running Worldcons?**

At present the Bid is spearheaded by Esther MacCallum-Stewart and Vanessa May. We are leading a discussion group of UK fans and convention runners, and have formed a working party to discuss options in the future. This consists of several previous Worldcon Chairs, advisors, former and current Worldcon DHs and AHs, established UK fans and an exciting amount of newcomers, both from other conventions in the UK and Ireland, and those new to fandom.

- **If known, who will be the chair of the convention? What experience do they have?**

Not known at present.

- **Have you agreed to participate in Pass-Along Funds? Would you be willing to increase the percentage from 50% to 70% of surplus?**

We would consider this in line with the requirements of a seated Worldcon, should we win, and also the prevalent feeling at the time (ie, things may change and it's too early to comment on this beyond 'yes we will do passalong')

Travel
- **What is the typical current airfare to your closest airport from world cities such as London, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, Melbourne?**

	Birmingham	Glasgow	London	Manchester
Boston	£312 $413 (1 stop)	£419 $555 (1 stop)	£273 $361	£430 $569 (1 stop)
Chicago	£379 $502 (1 stop)	£526 $696 (1 stop)	£551 $729	£466 $617 (1 stop)
Dallas	£508 $672 (1 stop)	£508 $672 (1 stop)	£571 $756	£469 $621 (1 stop)
Dublin	£20 $26	£28 $37	£34 $45	£20 $26
Helsinki	£176 $233 (1 stop)	£165 $218 (1 stop)	£89 $118	£121 $160
London	£126* $167 (1 stop)	£34 $45	n/a	£91 $120
Los Angeles	£414 $548 (1 stop)	£496 $656	£393 $520	£334 $442
Melbourne	£834 $1103 (1 stop)	£997 $1319 (1 stop)	£651 $862 (1 stop)	£848 $1122 (1 stop)

- **Do international flights, as well as domestic, fly into your local airport? Which airlines? If not, where is the closest international airport? Are direct flights from the cities above flown into your local airport?**

As above,

- **How far is your convention site from the nearest airport/train station and what is the realistic cost of getting to the hotels by both public transport and taxi from that airport/train station?**

Glasgow SEC
Suburb Location
Dedicated train station: Exhibition Centre Station
Nearest International Airport: Glasgow International
Taxi From Airport £15 ($20)

ExCEL Centre, London
Central Location
Dedicated Rail Link: Custom House for ExCEL and Prince Regent on the Docklands Light Railway.
Nearest International Airports: London City, London Gatwick, London Heathrow, London Stansted.
Taxi from Airport: £20-50 ($26-66), depending on venue.

Liverpool ACC:
City Centre Location
Train Station: Liverpool Lime St.
Nearest International Airports: Liverpool John Lennon, Manchester Airport
Taxi from Station: £7 ($9)
Taxi from Airport: (Manchester) £35 ($46)

Facilities

- **What venues do you plan to use for the convention?**

The three venues under consideration are:

SEC, Glasgow

ExCEL Centre, London

ACC, Liverpool

- **What are your main hotels? How far are your they *by foot* from your main venue? List the number of rooms you expect to have in each hotel in which you expect to have more than 75 rooms. Will there be a party hotel?**

At present this is venue dependent, however:

Glasgow:
The Crowne Plaza is attached to the SEC, and we would anticipate using some of the rooms as programme / party space. There are six other hotels on site, with the furthest 400m away from the

SEC entrance. The SEC Arena also has a series of public boxes which surround the space. Whilst we wouldn't be looking to use the Arena itself, the boxes would be perfect for publisher parties and book launches.

London:
The ExCEL Centre has a series of hotels surrounding it at both ends of the complex, with the nearest hotel 50 metres from the entrance we would be using. Scroll down for a useful table detailing the hotels used in 2014 and their distances from our entrance. Parties would probably be in the ExCEL, as the UK does not have a tradition of room/hotel parties.

Liverpool
Liverpool ACC has a hotel (Liverpool Pullman) attached, which has access on the same level as the walkway and ground floor of the exhibition centre. There are two further hotels in the block, which are 50m away, and one on the other side of the road, 150m away.

AirBnB operates throughout all cities

- **Please include a map of your site showing the locations of your facilities. Include every hotel in which you expect to have more than 75 rooms and every venue where program or exhibits will be held.** *Include a distance scale!* **(Feel free to just mark up a map with a pen – it needn't be pretty; it *does* need to be informative.)**

n/a at present.

- **How compact is your main facility? How much walking is required between the farthest rooms in your space allocation?**

We have made a note to record this on our next site visits.

- **What are your expected hotel room rates? Do these rates include breakfast? How firm are these rates? What additional taxes and fees are there?**

Too early to say here. We have had preliminary documentation on this from Glasgow and Liverpool, however.

- **Is there free internet in all the hotel rooms? In the program and exhibit venue?**

Hotel Rooms: This can vary between hotels but it is unusual to have to pay for an internet service in hotels in the UK. Usually this is accessed by a password or is simply free.

SEC and the **ExCEL** have free wifi, with dedicated channels for dealers and convention organisers at an additional cost.

- **What does parking cost at your main hotels?**

n/a

- **What is the distance from the nearest door of your main hotel(s) to the closest entrance of the convention site? What are the transportation options for those who prefer not to walk or who have mobility difficulties?**

n/a

- **Where will your large events (i.e. Hugo Ceremony and Masquerade) be held?**

SEC: The Armadillo (3000 seats)

London ExCEL: ICC Auditorium (4000)

ACC: Echo Arena (variable seats up to 11 000 - the auditorium can be broken into segments)

- **Please describe the restaurant scene near your site.**

Glasgow:
There are various chains and eateries on site, including a pub and restaurants in each hotel. There is a supermarket about 500m from the venue (Sainsbury's). Glasgow has undergone a foodie revolution in the last few years and the centre of town now has a huge and often inexpensive range of excellent food, both local and international in flavour.

London:
The ExCel has a series of on site eateries and pubs including two branches of The Fox Inn, various fast food chains and several restaurants. There is a small supermarket at the far end of the venue (Tescos). London has one of the most eclectic and international food scenes.

Liverpool:
There are some chain restaurants surrounding the venue - again the site is under fairly rapid development, which includes provision for food.

- **What arrangements will be made for evening socializing and party space? Do you have a corkage waiver?**

n/a

Miscellaneous

- **What type of weather can we expect during your convention? What is the usual temperature and chance of rain during that time of year? Do not provide the historic high or low that makes your site appear attractive. (Stephen and Deb can use google too)**

As British citizens, our obsession with the weather is second to none. We recommend Deb and Stephen check out these handy weblinks rather than Google, mainly because it's really interesting and shows lots of graphs (please note they are not the same one you had to look at for the Dublin FI. BONUS EXTRA WEATHER!!!):

https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/climate/
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/climate/gcuy0ce1v

Glasgow: Average temp 15 degrees. Glasgow can be a wee bit nippy ('braw', in local slang), and Glaswegians like to make jokes about the rare appearance of 'the burning ball in the sky'. Pack a

jumper. Also, it will rain, and when it does, it's usually heavy. Maybe also pack wellies so you can play in puddles.

London: Average temp 19 degrees. The ExCEL centre can be a windy outside because of the way it's been designed and because it's next to the Thames, however it's obviously slightly warmer than our Scottish cousins. Rainfall is also fairly common but London in the sunshine is a joy. Pack an ability to ask 'What's the weather like?' and get a five minute exposition on this.

Liverpool: Average temp 16 degrees. The ACC is right next to the Mersey, which also means it can be windy outside. We aren't going to lie, it's absolutely tipped it down every time we've been there so far and ruined a really nice scarf belonging to Esther.

If you require a super duper up to date app about weather, We also recommend Dark Sky (which can tell you what the weather is right now, although bear in mind that we are in December right now):
https://darksky.net/app

- **What are some of the main tourist attractions of your city?**

Glasgow was the city of Culture in 2014, and used this year to really develop it's cultural scene. This continues today with a huge emphasis on the local and regional importance of arts, creativity and performance. Glasgow also has numerous quirky museums and places to visit, and of course, there's lots of whisky.

London. As a capital city, London has everything from a thriving theatre scene (Hamilton opens here in January, and we're fairly convinced virtually every UK fan is going to see it), to museums about time and space (the Greenwich Observatory), taking in everything in between.

Liverpool is famous for The Beatles, and as a result has an excellent music and nightlife scene. It's also a gateway to fantastic local countryside, and lies at the heart of Britain's Industrial Revolution museums, history and canals.

- **Are you planning to have any membership discounts for certain groups, such as young adults, military, or seniors?**

We will consider this, should we win.

- **Do you have a published code of conduct?**

In a similar way to Dublin 2019, when we formally launch our Bid, we will also announce a code of conduct for Bid Team members to abide by, which will guide us towards the CoC that we use if we should become a Worldcon.

- **Will there be a instalment payment option?**

We will consider this should we become seated.