Worldcon 75 Fannish Inquisition

Name of bid/convention

UK in 2024

For what dates are you bidding?

August 2024

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

We are currently considering three options, however consultation over the last year via various panels, Fannish Inquisitions and discussions with UK and International fans is currently strongly in favour of Glasgow. Dependent on the negotiations with the venues, this may of course change. Details of the three options are below:

Glasgow SEC (the venue changed its name in December 2016 from Glasgow SECC)

(Worldcons 95 and 05 were held here).

The SECC 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 break out spaces which could be used for parties / launches. Glasgow SECC has strong relations with previous Worldcons (1995, 2005) and a good relationship with the City, SECC and fans such as Mark Meenan and Vince Docherty exists. The city has undergone considered urban regeneration in recent years and the council are keen to promote this. And the food is great! Suburb Location Dedicated train station: Exhibition Centre Station Nearest International Airport: Glasgow International Taxi From Airport £15 (\$20)

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 which also has 28 accessible rooms of differing types (ie showers / walk in baths, hard / carpet flooring).

There are 6 hotels on site.

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)

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.

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.

Who are the main people on your committee?

Emma England, Esther MacCallum-Stewart, Vanessa May. In the last year we have also formed a working party from UK and International fandom.

Travel

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

2024

All flights are return

Glasgow

Helsinki to Glasgow, 1 stop, €203 , \$239 London to Glasgow, direct (Stansted), €43, \$51 Boston to Glasgow, 1 stop, €493, \$582 Chicago to Glasgow, 1 stop €553, \$653 LA to Glasgow, 1 stop €687, \$811 Melbourne to Glasgow, 1 stop, €1168, \$1373

London

Helsinki to LGW, 1 stop, €101 , \$119 Boston to LGW, direct, €246, \$290 Chicago to London LHW, direct €538, \$635 LA to London LGW direct, €348, \$411 Melbourne to London LGW, 1 stop, €853, \$988

Liverpool (closest airport in Manchester), direct train links.

Helsinki to Manchester direct, €196 , \$232 London to Manchester direct (Southend), €69, \$81 Boston to Manchester, 1 stop, €488, \$576 Chicago to Manchester, 1 stop €540, \$637 LA to Manchester, 1 stop €697, \$824 Melbourne to Manchester, 1 stop, €921, \$1087 Do international flights 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. All three airports are international and support many major airlines (including Delta, American Airlines, RyanAir and British Airways). Preclearance for American travellers is planned for Heathrow and Manchester (and is already available for flights through Dublin).

How far is your convention site from the nearest airport and train station and what is the likely cost of getting to the hotels by both public transport and taxi from those stations?

Glasgow SEC

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

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)

The 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.

Please describe public transport options in your city.

Glasgow:

Tram, Bus, Train and Taxis. The city also supports hailing services such as Uber.

Liverpool Bus, Train and Taxis

London

Bus, Train, Light Railway (to ExCel centre), Underground Rail System, Taxis, Skyway (across the Thames). The city also supports hailing services such as Uber.

Facilities

Please describe your main convention facilities.

Again a summary of the three potential venues is as follows:

Glasgow SEC The Armadillo – 3000 seat auditorium (with recently updated acoustics) 5 exhibition halls. Largest = 24 000m2, smallest 2300 m2 21 programme rooms (not including Hydro) connecting Armadillo with exhibits area Hydro space additional 11 000m2 and additional conference rooms (would also be good for parties / overspill) 5 (+ 2 currently being built) hotels on site (800 rooms) Elevators and escalators Dedicated railway station into city centre

Liverpool Auditorium seats 11 000 (but can be scaled down to purpose) Secondary auditorium of 1350 seats New Exhibition Centre with 8100m2 of hall space (can be split into three) 21 Breakout rooms New walk-in Pullman hotel with 28 accessible rooms 6 hotels on site (658 rooms) Customisable room layout for programming and auditorium (built since the 2014 selection group visited) 'Boxes' in auditorium area ideal for on site party spaces

London ExCEL Centre Main auditorium and second stage can be built to purpose Capital Suite contains 17 programme rooms which can be changed in size (from 50 – 1200 people) London Suite provides 5 additional rooms (up to 400 attendees) Gallery Meeting rooms up to 40 other rooms On site hotel complex 2 dedicated DLR stations / beside London city airport

What hotel(s) are being used for the convention? How many rooms of what types do you have in your room blocks?

Not currently relevant, however the SEC (Glasgow) has undergone considerable development since the last Worldcon, with the inclusion of several on site new hotels at the top, middle and end range of budgets

Liverpool has a walk in hotel with 219 rooms, 28 of which are accessible. The convention centre is surrounded by 6 hotels total, and a range of accommodation is available throughout the city (3750 rooms approx.)

London ExCel centre is surrounded by a complex of on site hotels at the top, middle and bottom range of budgets, at both ends of the convention centre.

What are your hotel room rates like?

n/a at present

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 at present

Please describe the restaurant scene near your site.

n/a at present

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

n/a at present

Miscellaneous

What type of weather can we expect during your convention? What is the average temperature during that time of year?

The UK average is 19°C/66°F. There is a 50% chance of rain, and a 17% chance of clouds. Average rainfall is 48mm. This is the same in Scotland.

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

n/a at present

Are you planning to have any membership discounts for certain groups, such as young adults?

n/a at present

Should you win, do you plan to charge an additional fee for receiving paper publications?

n/a at present

This form was created inside of Maa ja ilma ry.

