# History

# 1908

Farnborough was the UK's first airfield in aviation history and home to the country's first powered flight, which saw Samuel Franklin Cody take off in his British Army Aeroplane No. 1, covering some 1,400 feet over Farnborough, in 27 seconds and at an altitude of 30 to 40 ft.

# 1908–1991

Primarily used as a military and aviation research base, Farnborough was owned by the British Ministry of Defence (MOD) during two World Wars and 40 years of the Cold War.

# 1989

Farnborough's first civil aviation operations begin.

# 1991

The MOD announce that the airfield is surplus to military requirements.

#### 1994

The Government declares that the airfield should be redeveloped as a business aviation centre.

#### 1997

TAG Aviation wins the bid and takes over the airfield, following a competitive process led by the British Government.

#### 1999

Planning for the redevelopment of the airfield begins.

# 2003

TAG Farnborough Airport Limited takes complete control under a 99-year lease as a fully compliant CAA airport for business aviation.

#### 2007

TAG purchases the airfield freehold and major renovations commence on Farnborough Airport.

# 2018

Farnborough Airport becomes the first business aviation airport in the world to achieve carbon neutral status.

# 2019

By 2019, Farnborough Airport grows beyond all recognition since being granted the original airfield lease. Shareholders sell TAG Farnborough Holdings Limited (including the Airport, Aviator hotel and The Swan pub) to a long-term infrastructure fund managed by Macquarie Infrastructure and Real Assets (MIRA). Part of Macquarie Group (a top 10 Australian company), MIRA is the world's largest infrastructure manager.

#### 2022

Farnborough Airport progresses its strategy to become a global showcase for airport sustainability with the launch of its Net Zero Roadmap in June 2022, establishing one of the most ambitious Net Zero targets in the aviation sector.

#### **Residents Representation**

The FACC meets three times a year to discuss the management of the aerodrome and bring to attention any residents' concerns.