

Dear Sir,

Having taken crucial fiscal steps to reduce the deficit, the Government needs a strategy for growth. Continued investment in capacity-building transport infrastructure such as London's Crossrail and Birmingham's New Street Station is welcome. There is, as yet, no plan to secure the UK's international connectivity.

Our main airports – particularly in the South East - are blighted by overstretched infrastructure, where the slightest disruption results in thousands of passengers queuing in the terminal and dozens of aircraft circling overhead. High Speed Rail will enhance connections to UK and near-Europe destinations, but business also needs to reach fast growing markets in the Far East and South America.

The Government's forthcoming aviation review must demonstrate compatibility with carbon reduction targets and offer a credible approach to capping local air pollution, but it cannot and must not ignore the economic benefits of flying. All options must be considered, short and long term, to address growing demand.

Yours

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