



**We pay by far the highest flight tax in Europe**  
**Our message to Government – we want a fair tax on flying**

Dear Chancellor,

The Government has identified tourism as one of the top five industries to drive growth. Aviation is a vital pillar of this industry and the UK economy, driving job creation and growth at home and overseas.

On behalf of the millions of passengers flying to and from the UK each year who pay billions of pounds in tax; on behalf of the hundreds of thousands of people employed in travel and tourism in the UK; and on behalf of businesses at home and abroad who rely on this industry; we are asking you to make the tax on flying fairer.

We are writing to you as companies and organisations for whom aviation to and from the UK is core to our business. We are uniting behind five tests that we ask you to consider when reviewing the level of aviation taxation in your Budget:

1. Will any revision increase the overall amount travellers pay to fly to and from the UK?
2. Will any change be designed to be offset by the income from the UK's inclusion in the European Union Emissions Trading Scheme?
3. Will a new approach remove the unfairness that travellers buying a premium economy ticket for a few extra inches of legroom are classed the same as first class travellers and pay double the rate of tax?
4. Will any new policy address concerns that defining bands by national capital cities creates unhelpful exceptions that are unfair to passengers and damage destinations?
5. Has the policy's impact on destinations, trade and tourism been adequately understood and considered?

Yours sincerely,



ABTA - CEO Mark Tanzer



AOA - CEO Darren Caplan



ANTOR – Chair Tracey Poggio



BA – CEO Keith Williams



BAA - CEO Colin Matthews



BARUK- CEO Michael Carrivick



BATA – CEO Simon JL Buck



Wolfgang Prock – Schauer CEO BMI



Bristol Airport – CEO Robert Sinclair



Gatwick Airport – CEO Stewart Wingate



Jet.2 – MD Ian Doubtfire



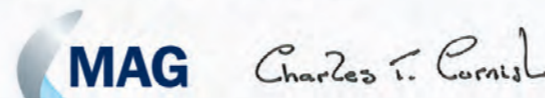
Lastminute.com – President ED Kamm



London City Airport – CEO Richard Gooding OBE



Luton Airport – MD Glyn Jones



Manchester Airport Group – Chairman and MD Charles Cornish



Monarch – CEO Conrad Clifford



Newcastle Airport – CEO David Laws



The Caribbean Council – MD David Jessop



The Co-operative Travel – MD Mike Greenacre



Thomas Cook – CEO Manny Fontenla – Novoa



Tourism Alliance – Chair Ken Robinson CBE



TUI Travel Plc – CEO Peter Long



UK Inbound – CEO Mary Rance



Virgin Atlantic – CEO Steve Ridgway

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 for a Fair Tax on Flying

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