

HENRY SMITH MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1A 2AA

20th January 2021

Dear Prime Minister

We are writing to you following your announcement suspending all travel corridors and the introduction on further restrictions for people arriving in the UK to call for a comprehensive '*Aviation, Travel and Tourism Recovery Package*'. This was sadly a necessary measure to tackle a serious health emergency and protect the UK from the spread of new variants of COVID-19.

It will however cause the effective end of all international travel and is a devastating blow to the aviation, travel, and tourism industries, those working in the sector and the communities who depend on them. These have been amongst the hardest hit of our economy and have suffered unprecedented losses, with passenger numbers at historically low levels even during the peak summer season.

As an island nation, our aviation, travel, and tourism sectors are integral to our economy and are major employers throughout the UK. They will also be a vital part of our economic recovery from the pandemic when it is safe to do so. It is therefore essential that action is taken now to provide further protection for these businesses, their supply chains, employees, and communities.

We therefore urge you to work with all in and associated with these industries to introduce a full and comprehensive '*Aviation, Travel and Tourism Recovery Package*' that will provide immediate financial and additional support alongside a pathway to allow aviation to come out of these restrictions when safe to do so.

These industries will play a vital role in our national economic recovery, but this will only be possible if they are given the support needed to get through the challenging weeks and months ahead.

The consequences of failing to protect our world class aviation, travel and tourism industries are unthinkable and will be felt across communities throughout the UK.

As such we urge you to bring forward a comprehensive '*Aviation, Travel and Tourism Recovery Package*' as soon as possible to support and protect these beleaguered sectors.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Henry Smith".

Henry Smith
Member of Parliament for Crawley
Chair, Future of Aviation All-Party Parliamentary Group

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