



## **All Party-Parliamentary Group on Aviation**

Inquiry: Maintaining the competitiveness of the UK in global aviation.

## **Call for Evidence**

*March 26<sup>th</sup> 2012*

## Introduction

The All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Aviation is a cross-party group of MPs and peers with an interest in aviation. The Group is holding a short inquiry into how Government policy can help to maintain and enhance the UK aviation industry's international competitiveness.

### Scope of the inquiry

The inquiry will look at a number of issues that affect the UK aviation industry's ability to compete internationally.

We will consider the quantum of Air Passenger Duty (APD) collected by the Government and its impact on competitiveness. We will also examine the economic importance of the aviation sector to the overall UK economy, as well as the impact which it has on the environment and how growth can be sustainable.

This inquiry will cover England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

### Terms of reference

The inquiry will focus on the following areas. Please answer some or all of the following questions:

#### 1. Air Passenger Duty:

- (a) Does the level at which APD is levied, place the UK at a competitive disadvantage internationally?
- (b) Please quantify the benefits and / or disadvantages, as you see them, resulting from the APD that is levied on passengers departing UK airports.
- (c) Should the Treasury commission an independent analysis of the economic impacts of APD? If so, please provide more details about what you think such a piece of research should include / cover.

#### 2. Economic impact of the aviation sector:

- (a) What are the constraints which inhibit the growth of the sector, and therefore its ability to help to grow the economy?
- (b) Should it be the role of Government to manage aviation demand? (please expand)
- (c) Are there lessons to be learned from aviation policy in other EU countries?

#### 3. Environmental impact of aviation:

- (a) What is the overall impact of aviation on the environment in terms of emissions?
- (b) What is the overall impact of aviation on the population in terms of noise pollution?
- (c) Is the aviation sector doing enough to address its impact on the environment? How can Government policy support further improvements?
- (d) In January 2012 Aviation entered the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS). Should the Government reduce APD to offset the impact of the EU ETS?

### Next steps:

Completed responses should be emailed to the APPG's Secretariat, Alastair Hill at MHP, [aviationappg@mhpc.com](mailto:aviationappg@mhpc.com) by midnight, May 16<sup>th</sup> 2012. Responses should be no more than two pages of A4 in length and should wherever possible avoid technical jargon.

**Other Information:** This inquiry is supported by MHP Communications and *A Fair Tax on Flying* campaign.