

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

16 November 2020

Dear Prime Minister,

Putting aviation decarbonisation at the heart of a green economic recovery

As leaders of the UK's world-leading aviation industry, we know that our future must be environmentally sustainable. That is why in February this year UK aviation collectively committed to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050, in a world-first for our sector.

This steadfast commitment has not changed, even as the world has changed around us. But to deliver net zero, partnership between Government and industry is now more vital than ever. The creation of the Jet Zero Council, bringing industry and Government together with the goal of making zero-emissions flight possible, has been a welcome and exciting step forward.

There is now a once in a generation chance for the UK to seize the opportunity to lead the world, both in delivering net zero flight, and to enable UK aviation to support our economic recovery through the high skilled jobs, supply-chain and export benefits that investment in new green aviation technology will bring.

To achieve this, support is critical in three areas. First, we urge the Government to take the next step and enable the emergence of a domestic UK Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF) industry, principally through targeted loan guarantees and the provision of capital grants. Utilising the UK's unique skills and capabilities we have identified seven UK industrial clusters which have the potential to generate thousands of highly skilled green jobs and help to level-up the UK.

SAF is essential as the primary and only envisaged pathway to decarbonise long-haul flight, and as existing technology can make a difference this decade. Early support is critical to the delivery of first-of-a-kind plants, the foundation for up to 14 plants generating sustainable fuel from household and industrial waste by the mid-2030s.

Second, Government should increase its support for technological innovation through the Aerospace Technology Institute - helping deliver those ground-breaking electric, hybrid and hydrogen powered aircraft which have the potential to revolutionise regional and short-haul travel and deliver net zero aviation, building on this year's ground-breaking zero-emissions electric and hydrogen flights from Cranfield. Investment will be needed in infrastructure to support these electric and hydrogen planes, once operational.

Third, the UK must maintain its commitment to delivering airspace modernisation, a critical next-step on the path to net-zero. It will eliminate inefficiencies, shorten journey times and reduce carbon emissions, so we urge the Government to support the short term funding request from ACOG that would progress this through the Airspace Masterplan.

We look forward to working with Government to build a sustainable recovery for our sector and the UK economy, and maintain the UK's proud tradition of aviation and aerospace excellence.

Yours sincerely,

Karen Dee
Chief Executive
Airport Operators Association

Tim Alderslade
Chief Executive
Airlines UK

Sean Doyle
Chief Executive
British Airways

Sir Martin Donnelly
President, Boeing Europe,
Managing Director
Boeing UK and Ireland

Mark Tanzer
Chief Executive
ABTA

Martin Rolfe
Chief Executive Officer
NATS

Paul Stein
Chief Technology Officer
Rolls-Royce plc

Charlie Cornish
Chief Executive Officer
Manchester Airports Group

Johan Lundgren
Chief Executive Officer
EasyJet

Nick Barton
Chief Executive
Birmingham Airport

Paul Everitt
Chief Executive
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Robert Sinclair
Chief Executive
London City Airport

Alberto Martin
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John Holland-Kaye
Chief Executive Officer
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CEO
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Stewart Wingate
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London Gatwick

Stephen Heapy
Executive Director and Chief
Executive Officer
Jet2 plc

Dr. Jennifer Holmgren
Chief Executive Officer
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