

Julie Hawes  
Airports Inquiries Co-ordinator  
Competition Commission  
Victoria House  
Southampton Row  
London  
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25<sup>th</sup> April 2007

Dear Ms Hawes

We refer to your recent article in the Route One magazine.

As a mini-coach operator, we frequently pick-up passengers from Heathrow Airport. In most cases the booking is for 8-12 passengers consisting of a couple of families, including a number of small children. Historically, we have absorbed the cost of picking-up at Heathrow, but due to the extortionate increase in the compulsory pick-up charge at Heathrow we are now obliged to pass on these costs to the passengers, a cost which averages out at £1.76 per person for 12 passenger, but £10.58 extra per family if there are only two families.

We also frequently pick-up from other UK airports, i.e. Luton, Birmingham, East Midlands and Stansted where no initial charge is made for picking up passengers.

We consider that this increased cost being passed onto operators, of well over 100%, is totally outrageous. We also cannot understand how it is calculated that a mini-bus will take up one full space when in fact you can get three mini buses in the space of two full size coaches.

Yours sincerely

CAVALIER MINI COACHES