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Your Ref  
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Telephone No  
Fax No  
Date 21 August 2007

Competition Commission  
BAA London Airports Inquiry  
Victoria House  
Southampton Row  
LONDON  
WC18 4AD

Dear Sirs,

**Re: Leeds Bradford – London Heathrow Service**

I am writing to you in my capacity as Deputy Leader of Wakefield District Council but also as Portfolio Holder for Regeneration. I understand that landing charges at London Heathrow Airport are currently under review. My specific concern is in respect of any charges that might apply in the future to the London Heathrow to Leeds Bradford Service. I am aware that a significant number of businesses in our region and within the Wakefield District use the Leeds Bradford to London Heathrow Service, not only to conduct business in the South East of the England but internationally. Any increases, which affect the viability of this route, would have significant detrimental affect on our economy.

Secondly, my understanding that the charges at Heathrow are effectively, "a one size fits all" and do not take into account the different economics applicable to short haul domestic service on the one hand and a long haul international service on the other.

In view of the statements I have made above and the real significance of the London Heathrow – Leeds Bradford Service to our local economy and the fact that any increase may encourage BMI to reduce the frequency or withdraw the service altogether, I would urge that some flexibility is introduced in order to take into account the very different economics of the vital short haul services between London Heathrow and the UK regions. The government

through its Northern Way Initiatives have been trying to narrow the North – South economic gap and if BAA are asked to support this, then it is important that these vital domestic links are maintained.

I would be more than happy to discuss this matter in more detail if you should wish to contact me.

Yours sincerely

**Councillor Denise Jeffery**  
**Deputy Leader & Portfolio Holder for Regeneration**

**Cc: Ed Anderson, Managing Director – Leeds Bradford Airport**