

20th August 2007

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

Dear Sir

It has recently been brought to my attention that landing charges at London Heathrow are under review.

I am particularly concerned in respect of charges that apply to the London Heathrow – Leeds Bradford Service, due to the significance this service has to the economy of the Leeds City Region. This service is Leeds Bradford's 3rd most heavily used and provides the opportunity to connect this region to 241 international destinations.

I understand that the charges at Heathrow do not take into account the economic differences between short haul domestic services and long haul international services and are effectively 'one size fits all'.

If the current proposed increases are agreed BMI have indicated that they will have to reduce the frequency or withdraw the service altogether. In order to avoid this situation I urge you introduce some flexibility and take account of the very different economics of vital short haul services.

Yours faithfully

Simon Wiles
Acting Chief Executive