



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

**FROM THE OFFICE OF
JOHN GROGAN MP**

Christopher Clarke
Competition Commission
BAA London Airports Inquiry
Victoria House
Southampton Row
London
WC1B 4AD

22nd August 2007

Dear Mr Clarke,

I write on the issue of the Leeds Bradford to London Heathrow service operated by bmi. This service is incredibly important for the region, connecting both business and leisure users with the 241 international destinations served from London Heathrow. There is no doubt that this service contributes not only to the business communities in Leeds and Bradford, but also inward tourism to the region, supporting events and exhibitions at the Harrogate Conference Centre.

I understand that charges at London Heathrow are currently under review. My specific concern relates to charges that apply to the London Heathrow to Leeds Bradford service, in view of its economic significance to the region.

My understanding is that the charges at Heathrow are effectively "one size fits all" and they do not take any account of the different economics applicable to short haul domestic service as opposed to long haul international services.

In view of the economic importance of this route to the region and the likelihood that bmi may reduce frequency or even worse, withdraw the service entirely if the current proposed increases in charges are agreed, I would urge that some flexibility is introduced in order to take into account the very different economics vital to short haul services between London Heathrow and the regions.

Yours sincerely

John Grogan
Member of Parliament for Selby Constituency