



**Virendra Sharma MP**

Member of Parliament for Ealing, Southall

House of Commons, SW1A 0AA

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Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP  
Chancellor of the Exchequer  
HM Treasury  
1 Horse Guards Road  
London  
SW1A 2HQ

29<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Chancellor

The recession so much of the UK is facing is a great risk to the jobs and livelihoods of so many of our constituents. Thousands face being made redundant because of falls in revenue for many businesses and certain industries almost completely drying up. Aviation is one of the hardest hit, almost no long haul routes are open and passenger numbers are down to tiny fractions compared to the start of the year.

Under the current system while a business such as Tesco which has seen growth during Covid-19 has received £585 million in Business Rate Relief our Airports have seen not a penny. Airports in Northern Ireland and Scotland have received support from their administrations, but in England and Wales no such scheme exists.

We call on you to provide support to all English and Welsh airports in line with that afforded by Scotland and Northern Ireland. This will allow airports to continue to employ people, pay other taxes and support the Covid recovery we all so badly need. We recognise this will in some areas cause an unacceptable shortfall in local authority income and so we ask you to compensate them for that loss and replace lost income to those affected local authorities.

Passenger numbers have in some cases fallen by 99% and more than 100,000 in the industry alone are facing the risk of unemployment. The industry lost nearly £2 billion in the four-month period between March and June alone, which is equivalent to around £15 million each day. They need help now, as an investment in jobs today and to support the recovery.

We look forward to your response.

**Constituency Office:**

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Best wishes



**Virendra Sharma MP**

And colleagues

Gavin Newlands MP

Ed Davey MP

Ian Byrne MP

Graham Stringer MP

Barry Gardiner MP

Derek Twigg MP

John Spellar MP

Mike Hill MP

Sammy Wilson MP

Kim Johnson MP

Mick Whitley MP

Neil Parish MP

Andrew Gwynne MP

Allan Dorans MP

Catherine McKinnell MP

Sarah Champion MP

Patricia Gibson MP

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Tony Lloyd MP

George Howarth MP

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