



The Rt Hon Theresa May MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA

17th October 2016

Dear Prime Minister

As the UK's leading airport, Heathrow serves many passengers from Wales. Whilst Wales has its own successful and growing airport, Heathrow provides a wider gateway to the world, uniting families, bringing tourists to our country and helping our exporters reach new markets. Whether we are connected by road, rail or air, we know that connections to Heathrow are key drivers of investment for many domestic Welsh businesses and for those businesses considering coming to Wales. Expanding Heathrow will create jobs in Wales, and our businesses are ready to support the delivery of this project. Of the two choices for airport expansion in the south east of England, Heathrow offers the best solution for Wales. It will enable Wales to maintain our position as an outward facing nation with global trade links.

In supporting the expansion of Heathrow though, Wales should be able to share in the benefits.

I welcome the Memorandum of Understanding that has been struck with the Scottish Government securing landing slots at the expanded Heathrow. A proportionate arrangement for Wales is critical, and I would like your assurance that any decision to expand Heathrow recognises the importance of slots to connect the UK nations together and is conditional on a fair allocation of slots to Wales.

Any announcement on Heathrow expansion should also be accompanied by a commitment from the UK Government to deliver the Western Rail Link to Heathrow by the 2024 deadline currently suggested by Network Rail, alongside confirmation of electrification to Swansea and modernisation of both the north Wales mainline and Cardiff Central station, to ensure that the people and economy of Wales fully benefit from this critical national project.

It would be remiss of me not to remind you that all parties in the National Assembly for Wales agree that Air Passenger Duty (APD) should be devolved to Wales, but that your government continues to frustrate this ambition, despite having devolved this tax to the administrations in Belfast and Edinburgh.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Can I urge you to ensure that interests of the people of Wales are properly recognised as you make this important decision. I am copying this letter to the Secretary of State for Wales.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carwyn Jones', written in a cursive style.

CARWYN JONES