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1 July 2015

Paul Patrick

The Airports Commission has today published its Final Report. In line with our terms of reference, this provides our recommendations in respect of the optimum approach to meeting the UK's aviation capacity and connectivity needs and for ensuring that this can be achieved as expeditiously as possible. We have also published a significant volume of technical material which will be of value in preparing a National Policy Statement to support any future planning application or in preparation for a Hybrid Bill.

Having completed our assessment, our conclusions are clear and unanimous. It is now for the Government to reach its own decision on how to proceed. The Commission's analysis was detailed and comprehensive and we appreciate that you will need to review it carefully. But we would urge you not to prolong that process any more than is necessary, if the UK's position as Europe's most important aviation hub is to be secured.

With the delivery of the Final Report our work is done. The Commission is now standing down.

Yours Sincerely

Howard Davies

Sir Howard Davies, Chair