

Sir Howard Davies
Airports Commission Consultation
Freepost RTKX-USUC-CXA
PO Box 1492
Woking
GU22 2QR

Dear Sir Howard,

Re: Cornwall Chamber of Commerce Consultation Response

Cornwall Chamber of Commerce has met with representatives of both Heathrow and Gatwick Airports to explore what would be the best solution for the economy of Cornwall and Isles of Scilly. This is the poorest economic region of England so, in order to promote growth, we need connectivity not only to London but onwards to growing markets for export of our knowledge-based services such as Software Coding and for Precision Manufacturing; to encourage inward investment; and to attract inbound tourism to the UK's leading holiday destination for the sixth consecutive year. An easy connection to a successful hub airport is of paramount importance.


Whatever the final decision of the Commission, Cornwall & Isles of Scilly needs a guarantee that UK regional connectivity will be factored in to your recommendation as a priority. We would like specific mention of Newquay, Cornwall Airport being the lifeline to economic development for England's only region still requiring EU Convergence Funding. Without a guarantee of daily flights to a hub which facilitates onward connections beyond London, Cornwall's economy will continue to flounder. We have for many years had significantly less per capita spent on infrastructure of any description. This decline could be reversed by making sure that the Commission's approval comes with the condition that connectivity to Cornwall is guaranteed for many years ahead.

This would allow other infrastructure planning, boost international investment and tourism here in Cornwall, and increase apprenticeships and the development of further and higher education courses safe in the knowledge that our economy was properly connected with growth markets everywhere.

If we can provide more specific economic data or direct access to businesses in Cornwall & Isles of Scilly please do contact us. If that sort of information would help in your deliberations we would be delighted to provide it.

Thank you for your attention.

Kind regards


Kim Conchie
Chief Executive
Cornwall Chamber of Commerce

Cornwall Chamber of Commerce & Industry

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