

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

29th September 2020

Dear Constance,

RE: SUPPORT FOR THE AVIATION SECTOR.

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of your concerns regarding support for the aviation sector; your comments upon which I have read with great interest.

The aviation sector is important to the UK economy, and like other sectors of the economy it will be able to draw upon the unprecedented package of measures that the Chancellor has announced to support businesses through the Coronavirus outbreak. The Chancellor has written to airline operators advising them on the steps they could take if they come into financial difficulty.

The Chancellor has made clear that while the Government is willing to consider the situation of individual firms, airlines must in the first instance have exhausted all other methods of help before asking for the taxpayer to support them. This includes using the measures the Government had already announced, such as the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme which offers firms financial support to retain furloughed employees, the Coronavirus Job Retention Bonus which encourages firms to keep on furloughed workers, and contacting existing investors to ask for additional capital.

This is of course a fast-moving situation and I will continue to monitor it closely, but I recognise the importance of the aviation industry both in creating jobs and in improving regional connectivity.

Once again, thank you for having taken the time to contact me and if I can ever be of any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

With best wishes,
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tom'.

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE