



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

January 2017

Dear Constituent,

Thank you for contacting me about Air Passenger Duty (APD).

The Government has continued to reform APD in the interests of passengers. Duties on long flights have been reduced and duties on short flights have been frozen for five years running. Further, I am pleased that children have also been exempt from APD providing they are travelling in economy class.

Taken together, these reduced, frozen, and exempt rates provide a tax saving to the aviation sector of over £300 billion this year alone. Since APD is paid by the airlines, but often passed on to customers, I welcome the savings British travellers will make.

With no tax on aviation fuel or VAT on international or domestic flights, APD ensures that the aviation sector plays its part in contributing towards the public finances. As a result of this the sector contributes £3.1 billion a year, funding that would otherwise have to be found elsewhere, placing pressure on the Government to increase taxes elsewhere.

The Government is firmly committed to ensuring aviation in the UK remains affordable and internationally competitive. Like all taxes, APD is constantly kept under review.

Once again, many thanks for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris'.

**CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY**