



Cabinet Office

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Crispin Blunt MP  
House of Commons  
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21 July 2015

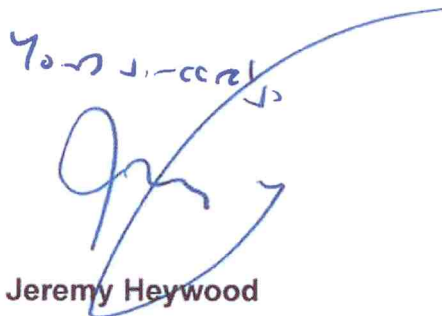
Dear Mr. Blunt,

Thank you for your letter of 30 June.

The Ministerial Code states that where Ministers have to take decisions within their departments which might have an impact on their own constituencies, they must take particular care to avoid any possible conflict of interest.

This is a requirement which has been in successive editions of the Ministerial Code, and is there to ensure that the decision maker is not conflicted. These Code provisions will of course apply to the Government's response to the Airports Commission's Final Report.

It is right that Ministers should be able to continue to undertake their duties as an MP, and to represent the views of their constituents. The Prime Minister is also clear, however, that decisions on the Government's response to the Commission must follow due process, and be taken solely in the national interest. To facilitate this, the Prime Minister has decided to establish and chair a new Cabinet sub-Committee to consider these issues. This Committee will be made up of Ministers from those Departments with a direct interest in the matter (in the usual way). None of the Ministers named in your earlier letter are members.

  
Jeremy Heywood

