



Rt Hon David Cameron MP
The Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1A 2AA

24 January 2012

Dear Prime Minister

We are writing to you as a matter of urgency to seek a meeting between yourself and all the Members of Parliament indicated below in order to clarify the government's position on the possible construction of a new airport in the Thames Estuary.

We seek this meeting in response to reports in the media that the government proposes to consult on the construction of a new airport in or around the Thames Estuary.

On the 27th October 2010 during Prime Minister's Questions, in response to a question from Mr Rehman Chishti, you stated that the government had no plans to construct a new airport in the area.

The government's position was recently restated in letters from the Minister for Aviation, the Rt Hon Theresa Villiers, to Mr Mark Reckless and Ms Tracey Crouch.

The proposals for an airport in the Thames Estuary do not appear to be supported by the public, or indeed by the aviation industry. If any such proposal were to go ahead it would have an enormous effect on the lives of hundreds of thousands of residents living in the wider Thames Estuary region and devastate an area of global environmental significance.

We are also concerned as to how the government proposes to fund such a scheme given the estimated cost of £50-80bn based on the proposals set out by Lord Foster.

We strongly urge the government not to proceed with these proposals and look instead at fully utilising the capacity of existing airports in the South East, and others such as Birmingham, which will now benefit from the new HS2 high-speed rail link to London in 30-40 minutes.

We look forward to meeting with you at the earliest opportunity to discuss this urgent matter.

Yours sincerely

Rehman Chishti MP

Tracey Crouch MP

Gordon Henderson MP

Adam Holloway MP

Gareth Johnson MP

Mark Reckless MP