



**Tees Valley Unlimited**

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Date: 31<sup>st</sup> October 2013

Dear Sir Howard Davies,

I am writing as the Chair of the Local Enterprise Partnership for Tees Valley, Tees Valley Unlimited (TVU), following our submission to the consultation launched by your Commission's into its 'Emerging Thinking' (please see Appendix 1). TVU covers the five Boroughs of Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland and Stockton on Tees.

We very much welcome the opportunity to respond to the consultation and strongly support the emerging findings of your Commission, particularly that regional airports have a role to play in meeting future aviation capacity needs in the UK. Our response, written in partnership with our local airport Durham Tees Valley Airport and the local authority areas where it is located, Darlington and Stockton Borough Councils, makes a number of key points:

1. Smaller regional airports can make a real contribution to capacity shortages
2. Local and national economies can benefit from introducing differential APD
3. Access to London and potential slot-ring-fencing is crucial for smaller regional airports
4. Smaller regional airports are developing as focal points for economic clusters
5. Government can enact measures to improve the commercial viability of regional airports

In summary, our submission puts forward the strong case for the contribution of regional airports, such as Durham Tees Valley, to meeting capacity shortages and boosting local economies as part of an aviation policy that works not just for London and the South East, but for the UK as a whole.

**We would very much welcome the opportunity to meet with you at a time and date which is convenient to discuss these points in greater detail.**

If you are happy to do so, I would be very grateful if you could contact Rory Sherwood-Parkin, Economic Strategy and Intelligence Manager at TVU ([rory.sherwood-parkin@teesvalleyunlimited.gov.uk](mailto:rory.sherwood-parkin@teesvalleyunlimited.gov.uk), 01642 632 004), to arrange such a meeting. Thank you once again for the opportunity to feed into the work of your commission.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandy Anderson".

**Sandy Anderson OBE DL**  
**Chair of Tees Valley Unlimited**