



Department
for Transport

Colin Flack OBE
Chair, UKACCs

From the Parliamentary
Under Secretary of State
Robert Courts MP

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9 November 2021

Dear Colin,

UKACC Annual Meeting Invite

Thank you for your letter of 19 October inviting me to speak at UKACC's annual meeting. Unfortunately, on this occasion I am unable to attend due to diary commitments.

Since we met earlier in the year, it has been an incredibly tough and frustrating time for airports in the face of unprecedented difficulties. Please pass on my thanks and gratitude both to the team at UKACC and to your members for their work over the last year in helping the industry get through the worst crisis to hit the sector in its history.

Covid is far from over - but recent relaxations of travel restrictions including the return of cross-Atlantic travel are clear signs that we are well on the way to recovery. As you are aware, government is starting to look forward by developing a strategic framework for the sector which will focus on building back better and ensuring a successful UK aviation sector for the future. We expect to publish this by the end of the year.

Additionally, our recent Jet Zero consultation considered the environmental challenges we face as set out our vision for the aviation sector to reach net zero by 2050. The consultation outcomes are set to be published in early 2022, when the real work to becoming net zero will begin.

The role of Airport Consultative Committees has never been more key to aid airports in building back better, and I am keen to see how they rise to this challenge in a way that maximise the benefits for their communities and local economies. I would encourage your members to continue to work closely with airports, to use their expertise to challenge industry's ambitions in recovery and to best represent their communities and airport users in these key decisions that affect them.

I understand that UKACC have continued to build the close relationship with the department and are working closely with my officials on how Airport Consultative Committees can be supported in the future. I look forward to hearing more about this work as it evolves, and I wish you all the best with your annual meeting.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert Courts". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R' and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

ROBERT COURTS MP

MINISTER FOR AVIATION, MARITIME AND SECURITY