



The Rt Hon John Denham MP
Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government

Department for Communities and Local Government

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Dear Sir/Madam

STANSTED G2 PUBLIC INQUIRY

I refer to my predecessor's letters of 2 March and 15 April regarding the G2 public inquiry timetable. Copies of these letters are attached.

As you will no doubt be aware, on 18 May the airport operator BAA announced its intention to appeal to the Competition Appeals Tribunal (CAT) against the Competition Commission's (CC) findings – as set out in their final report on BAA airports (*A report on the supply of airport services by BAA in the UK*).

Given the airport operator's decision, and taking into account the views put forward from a range of stakeholders, it is clear to me that it is neither feasible nor realistic to announce the start date for the Stansted G2 public inquiry until such time as the outcome of the appeal is known. Whilst there is no set timetable for the appeal process, I understand that it might take around 9 months to complete.

I remain committed to ensuring that there will be a minimum of 8 weeks notice between my formal announcement and the start date of the inquiry. A copy of this letter will be posted on the Planning Inspectorate website and can be viewed at <http://www.planning-inspectorate.gov.uk/stanstedg2inquiry/index.htm>.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Denham".

JOHN DENHAM