Dear [insert MPs name],

As [the owner/a director/the manager] of [insert your business name] based in your constituency, I am contacting you to share a new report by ABTA and UKinbound on the economic value of international travel to the UK economy, which is based on research commissioned from leading consultancy, York Aviation.

You can find more information, including how travel supports jobs and economic activity within the local area, on ABTA's webpage here: [www.abta.com/internationaltravel.](http://www.abta.com/internationaltravel)

Key findings from the report show that international travel:

* contributes £80bn to the UK economy in GVA, equivalent to 4.0% of the UK’s total GVA;
* supports 1.5 million jobs – 4.5% of all jobs in the UK;
* provides £13.2bn to HM Treasury in taxes;
* generates £84bn in travel-related spending across the UK

With the right government support and policy framework, international travel is expected to drive the UK’s post-pandemic recovery in the years ahead, outperforming most other parts of the economy – with inbound tourism forecast to grow by 20% by 2027 and outbound by 15%, compared to 2019 levels. Meanwhile, the overall growth forecast across the UK economy for the same period is 10.3%.

To help the industry meet its growth potential, ABTA and UKinbound are asking the UK government to support the following policies:

* Freeze Air Passenger Duty for the remainder of the current parliamentary term;
* Extend energy support for travel businesses beyond March 2023;
* Work with the British Business Bank to encourage lenders to adopt a sympathetic view to travel businesses requiring more time to repay pandemic-related debts;
* Reinstate the VAT reclaim scheme to make the UK a global shopping destination, boosting arrivals and tourist spending in the UK economy;
* Create a fully digitalised youth group visa application process to reverse the decline in youth group travel that has resulted from the end of EU ID card acceptance within the UK.

While the current cost-of-living crisis is a challenge facing all businesses in the UK economy, it is important to be clear that not all economic sectors are starting from the same place regarding Covid-19 recovery. As you may recall, all domestic Covid-19 related restrictions were lifted in July 2021, but international travel remained under serious trading constraints until March 2022. During these six months, travel businesses like mine had no furlough support or other financial assistance. This has left the sector more vulnerable to the current economic downturn than other businesses and needs additional attention and help.

I hope you will find the report of interest. As my local MP, I would be grateful if you could raise the above concerns with the Chancellor, and if you could consider how the points might be highlighted through your other parliamentary activities [include an invitation for the MP to visit your business or a request for a meeting, if desired].

Yours sincerely,